MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 OCTOBER 1981

Autonomy Talks; Egyptian-Israeli Relations

'Ali, Sharon News Conference -- Jerusalem radio broadcast live a news conference at Ben-Gurion Airport given by Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali prior to the latter's departure for Egypt. Sharon said 'Ali's visit to Jerusalem and his meeting with Israeli leaders show that Egypt and Israel are going to continue and deepen the Camp David peace agreement. Regarding normalization of Egyptian-Israeli relations, he noted that the two sides had agreed to promote tourism between Israel and the southern Sinai by the opening of an Egyptian consulate in Elat and an Israeli consulate in Sharm ash-Shaykh and by the granting of on-the-spot visas or entry permits. 'Ali said his visit proves the desire of both countries to realize normalization and implement the peace treaty, adding that the latest round of talks had given normalization "a great push forward" and had established a "natural set of relations between two countries." 'Ali also announced that a ministerial meeting on Palestinian autonomy will be held on Cairo on 4 November. Replying to questions, both men indicated that differences of opinion still exist on the autonomy question. Admitting that the election of a Palestinian authority is a "very complicated" matter, Sharon emphasized that no line can be drawn between Jews and Arabs in Israel since they have been living together for hundreds of years between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean. 'Ali reiterated the Egyptian view that east Jerusalem is part of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and said Israeli officials have mentioned that the Jerusalem issue will be negotiable. Noting that another point of difference is the issue of Israeli settlements in the West Bank, the Egyptian foreign minister admitted that the two most difficult problems in the autonomy negotiations are Jerusalem and the settlements, but asserted that with good will on both sides, an agreement can be reached. 'Ali also said Egypt remains committed to implementing the Camp David accords before looking to any other initiative like Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's eight-point peace plan.

Israeli Reports, Comment -- According to Jerusalem radio, Israel and Egypt have agreed to introduce direct postal and telex ties. An Israeli Communications Ministry official said both sides aim to complete preparations by April 1982. In a 27 October commentary on the autonomy talks, the Tel Aviv paper 'AL HAMISHMAR said that unless Egypt and Israel reach an agreement on the power, duties and composition of a Palestinian administrative council, it will be "absolutely impossible" to reach an overall agreement on autonomy.

Egyptian Comment -- Cairo radio reported that AL-JUMHURIYAH emphasized that Israel must show a real understanding of the nature of Palestinian autonomy as called for in the Camp David accords if it wants a successful outcome for the forthcoming tripartite autonomy talks. In the absence of a genuinely autonomous government for the Palestinians, AL-JUMHURIYAH continued, peace is a remote target.

Egypt

Citing the 28 October AL-JUMHURIYAH, MENA reported that the security forces conducted a search for members of "the terrorist organization" still at large and arrested one who had thrown explosive charges at police.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi on AWACS -- DPA reported Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi as saying in a STERN magazine interview that "under no circumstances" will Libya allow U.S. AWACS aircraft to photograph its territory and that if they do, they will be shot down with antiaircraft missiles, if possible. He also said he believes that Egypt does not wish to attack Libya, but that the United States does. He further claimed that the United States desires to occupy Egypt. Commenting on Sudan, Al-Qadhdhafi saw "no reason" for war with that nation.

Denial on Talks With Egypt -- JANA cited a Foreign Liaison Bureau "source" as denying as baseless and untrue reports carried by QNA and KUNA that a meeting recently took place in a Western capital between a Libyan official and Egyptian Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr 'Usamah al-Baz.

Saudi Arabia

SPA reported that in an interview with an NBC correspondent, Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani said that if the AWACS deal with the United States is unsuccessful, then Saudi Arabia will purchase the needed equipment elsewhere. According to SPA, he explained that failure of the deal would "produce reactions and no one could talk about the consequences," stressing that "the situation would not be satisfactory."

Jordan

Amman radio reported that King Husayn met in London with Saudi Crown Prince Fahd. According to AR-RA'Y, Husayn will also meet with senior British officials during his stay in the United Kingdom, which precedes a scheduled visit to the United States.

PLO

The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf arrived in Moscow for talks with Soviet officials on the implementation of measures agreed upon by Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat during his recent visit to the Soviet Union. According to the radio, Khalaf is heading a PLO political and military delegation.

Iran

Security Situation -- According to a Tehran radio report, 31 Kurdish rebels have been captured in the past few days in the towns of Baneh and Mahabad. In the course of a clash with revolution guards and gendarmerie forces near Saqqez, 10 rebels were killed and 7 wounded.

Musavi on Foreign Policy -- Tehran radio reported that Foreign Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi told a press conference that Iran will shortly present a plan conferning Afghanistan. Musavi also said Iran rejects Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's Middle East peace plan on the grounds that its implementation would lead to Israeli domination of an Islamic country. The foreign minister commended the idea of an Islamic front, asserting that both Libya and the PLO have shown interest in such a plan.

Khomeyni Schedule -- Tehran radio announced that Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni has canceled all meetings for 2 weeks, in observance of the month of Muharram, which is devoted to mourning the martyrdom of Iman Hoseyn.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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VOP CITES APN ON U.S.-EGYPTIAN MANEUVERS

JN251910 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Oct 81

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] U.S. and Egyptian forces are getting ready to carry out huge, wide-scale joint maneuvers in western Egypt facing the Libyan border. How does Moscow view these joint maneuvers and their political objectives?

APN answers this question: The unprecedented scope of these maneuvers implies that an aggression will be launched in the Middle East rather than just ordinary military maneuvers. In addition to Egypt, these maneuvers will cover the Sudanese, Omani and Somali territories. Strategic air force units stationed in the United States and units from the 6th Fleet stationed in the Mediterranean, as well as units and formations in the Indian Ocean, will take part in these maneuvers.

Continuing, APN says: These maneuvers, which will commence in early November and last about 1 month, are bound to exacerbate the situation not only on the Egyptian-Libyan borders, but they will also undoubtedly heighten tension in the Horn of Africa, the Arab Gulf and the Mediterranean. Moreover, the participation in these maneuvers by the 6th Fleet forces which are part of NATO is of special significance because Washington intends to ignore the opinions of its allies by involving them in an extremely grave war game against independent Libya, and consequently rendering its NATO members responsible for the grave consequences that might result from these provocative acts.

This is called muscle-flexing in the United States. U.S. circles are planning to demonstrate this by sending two squadrons of B-52 bombers from U.S. bases to bombard specific targets in the maneuver zone and then return to their bases.

APN adds: It is most likely that B-52's will also take off from Diego Garcia to test immediately use of these strategic bombers in the future. It is evident that Washington is planning to carry out a huge provocative war, which is bound to involve several countries and to jeopardize the security and independence of many others.

PLO OFFICIAL ON GREECE'S STAND, REPERCUSSIONS

NC261648 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1445 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] In an interview with WAFA today, Shawqi Armali, PLO representative in Athens, said that the new Greek Government's decision to afford official recognition to the PLO was historic step, especially since this is the first foreign policy action since Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou's election victory last week.

Armali also noted that the Greek stand would have important repercussions on the other European states and members of the Socialist International. He said that this would have particular importance with respect to the socialist government in France, whose position on the Palestine cause was much less advanced than that of Papandreou's PASOK.

Armali described Greece's stand as exemplary and its decision to legally recognize the PLO, taken before the United States could exert pressure on the new government, as courageous. He said he hoped Greece's example would inspire other European states to take similar steps, disregarding Washington's pressures. He added the decision acquired further importance in view of Greece's stand with regard to membership in NATO's military council, the issue of American bases, and continued membership in the EEC.

Armali finally announced that contacts were underway with Greek officials in order to formalize this stand in the course of an official visit to Athens by PLO Chairman 'Arafat, which is to take place before the end of the year.

KUWAITI PAPER ON INDIANS FIGHTING WITH PLO

GF261238 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 26 Oct 81 pp 1, 14

[Text] New Delhi, 25 Oct (UNI) -- Nearly 1,000 Indians are serving as mercenaries for the Palestinian commandos in strife-torn Lebanon, according to popular fortnightly news magazine INDIA TODAY.

Most of them found their way to Beirut after a stint as laborers in the oil-rich Middle East, the magazine said in a report from the Lebanese capital in its latest issue.

Though the Indians, most of them hailing from the northern state of Punjab, have taken part in a number of battles and engaged in skirmishes, there has been no known casualties among them yet.

Fighting alongside the Indians are an equal number of Pakistanis and about a hundred Bengalees. The report said though Palestinian leaders do not talk freely about the Indian connection, when they do, it is in terms of praise.

It quoted Maj Khalid al-Ibrahim, an Al-Fatah commando in charge of a militia camp in Beirut, as saying: "The Indians are tough, good fighters and obey instructions. They are Sikhs, but now they do not wear their turbans and have shaved off their beards and have been given new Muslim names."

Of the 200 fighters under Khalid's command, 14 are Indians, clothed in the regimented anonymity of a battle formation.

The chief liaison man between the Indians and the PLO is 22-year-old Sukhvinder, who has been trained in the Bi'r Hasan camp of the PLO 3 km from Beirut. According to him, all the aspiring job-hunters had to do was "to go to Damascus, go to a hotel near the Damascus post office and meet Gopi." The magazine reported: "The mysterious contact man in Damascus, Gopi, whose passport revealed him to be Daljit Singh, 30, would for $200 (RS 1,840) a person, smuggle him over the Syrian-Lebanese border. He would then provide more contact addresses in Beirut. Only when the Indians got to these towns did they realize what they were getting into Beirut put them in touch with the Palestinians [as published].

The induction of the Indians into the civil war is reported to have begun 3 years ago. In the PLO camps, some Indians have already received the pistol of honor, given to the best cadet at the end of training.

"Compared to the European mercenaries, who cost $200 (RS 1,840) a day, the Indians were kept satisfied with RS 1,800 a month. The writer managed to gain interviews with three Indians: Salbir, 26; Govind, 22; and Sukhdev, also 22.

The magainze said: "If the Indian diplomats in Lebanon were aware of the Indian connection, they shy away from admitting it. According to sources, the Indian Embassy first became aware of the clandestine traffic when five Indians were found among those injured in a shoot-out near Fahayeda Camp, the Lebanese Army headquarters in Beirut. The five were taken to the American University Hospital by Syrian troops. Syrian intelligence confirmed that they had been caught during the fighting, and it was believed that the Indians had dumped their weapons before being caught. The Indian Embassy came to know of the incident through a source at the hospital, and a young employee was able to convince the Syrians that it was just an accident. The five were deported."

In April this year, PLO militia stopped a group of 21 Indians in central Beirut while they were on their way to Juniyah. They were handed over to Syrians, who released them only at the intervention of the Indian Embassy.

FATAH'S KHALAF URGES UK TO PLAY GREATER ROLE

PM211109 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 21 Oct 81 p 5

[Alan Copps dispatch: "Britain Urged To Step Up Mideast Peace Drive"]

[Text] Beirut -- The time is ripe for Britain to play a much greater role in the search for a Middle East peace, Mr Salah Khalaf, number two in the Beirut-based Fatah guerrilla organisation said yesterday. The British, he said, "understand this area. Yet their policy here is very closed. They leave it to the Americans who are amateurs and don't understand anything."

Mr Khalaf, known by the codename Abu 'Iyad, welcomed the present European initiative to discuss the eight-point peace plan put forward by Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia. He believed that the plan, perhaps with some amendment, would be adopted by next month's Arab summit in Morocco as a basis for new peace talks.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation would be meeting Prince Fahd soon to discuss the plan, and he welcomed the prospect of a meeting between Mr Yasir Arafat, the PLO leader, and Lord Carrington, foreign secretary.

The Fahd plan calls for Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories; the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital; and recognition of the right of all states in the region to exist in peace.

The Fahd plan, he said, represented the "minimum possible from the Palestinian point of view." He believed that both the Europeans and the Russians could play an important role in the peace process, but the preliminary stage must be to gain Arab agreement.

Asked about Israeli and American fears that a Palestinian state would prove to be a satellite of the Soviet Union, Abu 'Iyad replied: "No state that will have Jerusalem as its capital can be a communist state."

Asked if he thought there was any sign that the United States was moving towards recognition of the PLO, he said: "If you had asked me who killed As-Sadat, I would have told you that American policy killed As-Sadat. Part of that policy is to ignore the PLO."

He said that statements by former Presidents Carter and Ford that the PLO should play a part in peace talks showed a feeling of guilt about that mistake. The Camp David accords had failed and thus opened the way for new initiatives like the Fahd plan.

VOP NOTES COMMENTS ON NIXON'S REMARKS ON PLO

JN261925 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1845 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] Former U.S. President Richard Nixon has stated that the United States must establish contacts with the PLO and added that these contacts could take place through a mediator but not the way Andrew Young and Palestinian UN representative At-Tarazi met during President Carter's administration. Nixon said that Israel has waged four wars and it can wage a fifth, but we know this would be suicide. Nixon told reporters that he would inform Reagan of his observations when he contacts him by telephone.

It is worth mentioning that several former U.S. officials, headed by Nixon, Ford and Carter, have of late demanded that the United States contact the PLO despite the fact that during their terms of office they devoted their policies toward hostility to the PLO and plotting against the Palestinian people's cause.

ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK APPROVES PROJECTS

LD211310 Vienna OPECNA in English 1430 GMT 20 Oct 81

[Text] Jiddah, 20 Oct (OPECNA) -- The Islamic Development Bank (IOB) has approved assistance totaling 73.37 million U.S. dollars covering 14 projects in 11 countries. Some involve technical assistance and foreign trade subsidies. The decision was taken at the fifty-second session of the bank's board of executive directors which ended here at the weekend. The meeting also approved the bank's budget for next year.

A loan of 20 million dollars was approved for projects in Mauritania, Senegal and Mali which include the building of the Manentali Dam in Mali. The dam will not only increase the area of cultivable land in the country but will also help to make the Senegal River navigable.

The bank will participate in the Sumatex textile project in Indonesia to the extent of four million U.S. dollars. The mill is expected to produce 9.5 million meters of dyed and processed fabrics annually.

Six million dollars will go to Tunisia for the Nafeda cement factory designed to produce 950,000 tons of cement and 150,000 tons of limestone every year.

Morocco is to receive four million dollars for its Zamamra sugar will with a daily production capacity of 4,000 tons of beet sugar.

Niger, which is building a match factory in the Mardi area, will be given 140,000 dollars. Production is estimated at 67.25 million boxes annually. The IDB participation is within the framework of a 2.34 million dollar line of credit earlier given to the Development Bank of Niger.

The bank will also take a share of the equity in a jute factory in Bangladesh amounting of 318,000 dollars. Production is estimated at 1,928 tons per annum.

Also approved was a line of equity for 5.8 million dollars to the National Development Bank of Indonesia for small and medium-size projects.

The meeting, in addition, approved the provision of technical assistance to three countries: People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (253,000 dollars) for a feasibility study on a ceramics factory, Yemen Arab Republic (471,000 dollars) for a similar study on an integrated agricultural project, and Mauritania (817,00 dollars) which includes a grant of 393,000 dollars for a sheep farming project.

Two foreign trade financing operations were also approved, namely the import of crude oil by the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (12 million dollars) and the import of refined petroleum products by Niger (eight million dollars). The board also approved a two million dollar grant for Algeria for the reconstruction of a secondary school building damaged in the recent earthquake.

AL-'ASIFAH FORCES CONDUCT MILITARY EXERCISES

JN231543 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1505 GMT 23 Oct 81

[Text] Al-'Asifah forces held wide-scale military maneuvers for several hours during which they used modern antiaircraft weapons. Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief and Fatah Central Committee member, attended the maneuvers. The forces scored direct and precise hits and proved high competence. At the end of the maneuvers, graduation certificates and medals were distributed among the members of the air defenses weapons crew.

BAHRAIN

HEIR APPARENT CALLS FOR DEFENSE COOPERATION

GF241308 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0943 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 24 Oct (GNA) -- Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force, has called for further defense cooperation among Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] countries. In a statement published by the Saudi newspaper AL-MADINAH today, his highness said: It is our nation's honor to defend this region. I hope for further accomplishments in this regard.

His highness lauded the meeting of the GCC chiefs of staff held in Riyadh last month. He said the meeting was a positive step and provided powerful momentum. Moreover, he said, the basis for cooperation and coordination has existed for quite some time and is continuing. He added: I expect that the upcoming GCC summit will discuss organizational matters related to previously discussed points. This will be aimed at furthering development to benefit the people of the region.

QUEEN ELIZABETH MEETS AMIR, DEPARTS 25 OCT

GF251955 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 25 Oct 81

[Excerpt] His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, bade farewell to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, who was accompanied by her husband, the duke of Edinburgh, when she left the country for home at 1530 today. During her short visit to Bahrain, she held amicable talks with his highness on the good relations between the two friendly countries and the means of strengthening and developing these relations.

BRIEFS

SWISS AMBASSADOR -- The amir, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, received at Ar-Rifa Palace this morning the Swiss ambassador, who has just concluded a tour of duty. [Manama Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 20 Oct 81 GF]

KUWAIT

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS SOVIET AMBASSADOR

LD241334 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Oct (KUNA) -- Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait Nikolay Sikachev has met with the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah. According to the Soviet diplomat, they discussed bilateral relations and a number of issues of common concern.

Following the meeting, Sikachev told newsmen that the meeting was within the framework of consultations between the two friendly countries. He added that the talks dealt with the attitudes of both Kuwait and the Soviet Union on a number of current issues. He gave no other details.

AR-RA'Y AL'AMM ON U.S. REJECTION OF FAHD PLAN

LD231216 Kuwait KUNA in English 1036 GMT 23 Oct 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Oct (KUNA) -- AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM on the Saudi peace proposal on the Middle East:

KUNA REVIEWS EDITORIALS ON EGYPT 25 OCT

LD251202 Kuwait KUNA in English 1026 GMT 25 Oct 81

[From the press review; quotation marks as received]

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Oct (KUNA) -- Extracts from Kuwait newspaper editorials on Sunday:

AL-ANBA' on Egypt: "President Husni Mubarak prefers to remain bound to the official claims introduced by late President Anwar as-Sadat, than to break those chains for the sake of his passion, feelings and veins (his real Arab identity). "This is understandable yet it is not acceptable.

"The Egyptian president might not be able to break everything at one time, that is if he wishes to do so, but what is not acceptable of him is to ask the Arabs to take the first initiative towards Egypt. It was Egypt's president who went to Jerusalem in October 1977 not the Arabs. Likewise, it was As-Sadat who signed the Camp David accords and altered the course of the Nile, not the Arabs. As such, Egypt is the one who went away, and it should abide by the simple saying: He who goes is the one who must return.

"In public, most of the Arab countries especially the (member) states of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front have called on Egypt to return (to the Arab folds). All other Arab countries, were, in fact, for this return. [as received] In Cairo, President Mubarak was satisfied with crushing the pens of journalists and the brushes of the caricaturists and asking them to remain silent regarding anything related to the Arabs. This might be some kind of oblivion and conceit (on the part of Mubarak) or a request for a truce but in any case, it is not an act of reciprocation.

"What is required, in view of the expanding valley (separating Egypt from the Arab world) is not Egypt's turning of its back but Egypt's lending us its ears to listen to us and to its heart.

"What is required is not a truce or an exchange of silence. It is simply that President Mubarak rebuilds this bridge over the Nile. The Egyptian president knows, and for certain now, that Egypt is not Sinai alone. But it has always been Sinai, Jerusalem, Damascus, Beirut, the ocean and the Gulf.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM on the same subject: "A great number of Arabs still expect President Husni Mubarak to deeply realize the dangers Arab Egypt was dragged into during the reign of its late president. "Those Arabs assume the new Egyptian president has closely witnessed the bitter and tragic repercussions of Egypt's running behind illusive American dreams of peace and abundance which led to its separation from its Arab brothers. The outcome was that Egypt 'won' Israel but lost the Arabs.

In addition, and in contrast with the alleged peace dreams, its military burdens increased. Hence, instead of its belonging to the Arab front against Israel, where it actually belongs, Egypt was snatched out and placed in many a front against the Arab countries.

There is still chance for the new Egyptian president to curtail the American expansion in Egypt and to stop this country from becoming a tool in the American schemes. When Egypt, first of all, extracts itself from the American circle, it can then return to its Arab family, who has relentlessly been waiting for her. They are still waiting for an initiative by Husni Mubarak to bring Egypt back to its prime position among the Arabs.

"The Egyptian president must have realized...that Israel will not completely hand over Sinai before it gets what it wants from Egypt.

Israel will get Egypt involved in preparing the "final Israel formula" for the so-called Palestinian autonomy. Israel will force Egypt into making new and unnumerable compromises, the least of them would be Judaization of the West Bank in return for the final (stage of the) withdrawal from Sinai.

"This is a burden that Egypt should not carry out or get involved in as a result of some whims and illusions of the assassinated president."

"The U.S. yesterday announced its commitment to the Camp David accords and said the Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's initiative on the Middle East crisis was no substitute for these accounts [as received].

"The U.S. seems to be prepared to tackle the Saudi initiative in the same humiliating way as it has been applying to the AWAC's deal. The U.S. has rejected that initiative and so did Israel. Hence, we wonder as why should we insist on trying to market it, thus creating new differences among ourselves. Supposedly we all approved that initiative in order to put pressure on Israel, but we forget the simple fact that has ever bowed to any pressure since its establishment in 1948 [as received].

"We in Kuwait should adhere to a balanced Arab policy which his highness the amir has adopted as a political approach at the Arab and global levels.

"We have no interest in adopting any stand that indicates dictation. The Arab stand considers the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and has entrusted the Arab confrontation states to determine means of struggle against Israel. Anything beyond that should be considered as a Palestinian affair, decided only by the Palestinian people themselves.

"We are not obliged to bargain on our approach which is so close to the Arab conscience and which has won us the respect and appreciation of all parties concerned."

FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES U.S. BUSINESSMEN

LD261912 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, foreign minister and acting information minister, this evening met at the Hilton Hotel with a delegation of U.S. businessmen and journalists currently visiting the country. The meeting was attended by ministers, the under secretary of the Foreign Ministry, the under secretary of the Information Ministry, the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Kuwaiti Parliament, members of Parliament, Kuwaiti journalists and businessmen.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad in a speech welcomed the U.S. delegation and said its visit to Kuwait clearly indicated the delegation's true desire to learn about Kuwait, its people and its culture. He said increased cooperation and understanding among peoples of the world not only encourages cooperation but also widens the bases of international peace and security.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad added: We in the Arab homeland in general, and in Kuwait in particular, always complain that the United States has insufficient understanding of our problems. In fact, many Americans do not understand our problems well enough. This has prevented opportunities for developing cooperation between the United States and the Arab world in general.

The deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, foreign minister and acting information minister declared that although Kuwait is linked with the United States by firm and good relations at the bilateral level, the great differences in the attitudes of the two countries toward the Arab's primary issue -- the Palestinian question -- will always remain an obstacle hindering the best utiliziation of the possibilities for full cooperation. He expressed the hope that the United States will show more understanding of the Arab position, and said: We have every right to insist that the United States have a more balanced and just attitude, particularly in its views on the just rights of the Palestinian people.

OMAN

OIL MINISTER ON OIL, COPPER, CHROME PRODUCTION

GF281058 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0830 GMT 28 Oct 81

[Text] Muscat, 28 Oct (GNA) -- Sa'id Ahmad ash-Shanfari, the Omani petroleum and minerals minister, has announced that the Sultanate of Oman will maintain its current oil production rate during the current 5-year plan. This rate amounts to 320,000 barrels per day.

In a statement to the daily paper 'UMAN, the minister said the reason the Sultanate of Oman will maintain its oil output during the 5-year plan that extends to 1985 is the fact that Oman has marketing problems, since its strategic stand helps it surmount marketing difficulties.

He also noted that Oman will be the first country in the region to produce and market copper next October when the copper mine in [word indistinct] is completed. The Sultanate will also start producing chrome next October.

BRIEFS

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENT -- Sultan Qabus today appointed Oman's ambassador to Suda, 'Isa Ahmad 'Ali, nonresident ambassador to Gabon. The Sultan also decreed the setting up of a secretariat for the Council of Ministers under the supervision of the minister for affairs of the Royal Diwan. [Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 26 Oct 81 LD]

QATAR

ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY DELEGATION VISITS

Amir Receives Under Secretary

GF271721 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Amir Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani received Italian Foreign Ministry Under Secretary (Roberto Valixi) in his office at Ad-Dawhah Palace at 1000 today. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, the minister of state for foreign affairs, and Paolo Torella di Romagnano, the Italian ambassadors to Qatar. QATAR NEWS AGENCY has learned that bilateral relations and the means to develop cooperation between the two countries in all fields were discussed during the meeting.

Foreign Minister Meets Group

GF271720 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, the minister of state for foreign affairs, today met with Italian Foreign Ministry Under Secretary (Roberto Valixi) and the delegation accompanying him. During the meeting, means to reinforce bilateral relations were discussed. The two officials also discussed the current world and Arab developments in general and the Middle East question in particular.

The Italian Foreign Ministry under secretary left Doha for Kuwait this afternoon, following a 2-day visit to Qatar as part of his current tour of the region.

BRIEFS

ROK ENVOY -- The amir, His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, today received So Kyong-sok, the ROK ambassador in Doha, who came to bid farewell to the amir at the end of his tour. [Doha QNA in Arabic 1330 GMT 24 Oct 81 GF]

SAUDI ARABIA

MINISTER SAYS 'ZIONIST LOBBY' BLOCKS AWACS

LD272150 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2100 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Riyadh, 27 Oct (SPA) -- The minister of information, Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani, has explained that the Zionist lobby has been trying its best to place obstacles in the way of the U.S. Administration regarding the sale of AWACS aircraft to the Kingdom despite knowing that they do not threaten so-called Israeli security.

His excellency stressed that the Israeli lobby realizes that these aircraft are necessary for our self-defense and that we need weapons and equipment to defend our country and our nation.

In reply to a question from an American NBC correspondent during an interview with his excellency in Riyadh about the reaction of the Kingdom in the event of the AWACS aircraft deal not being agreed on and about the fate of relations between the two countries, his excellency the minister of information said the Kingdom intended to purchase needed military equipment from another country if it could not obtain it from the United States. He explained that a refusal would naturally produce reactions and no one could say what the consequences would be. His excellency stressed that the situation would not be satisfactory.

UAE

EDITORIALS ON ISRAELI CHIEF OF STAFF'S 'THREATS'

GF241427 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0620 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 24 Oct (ENA) -- In their editorials today, AL-KHALIJ and AL-BAYAN note the latest threats that the Israeli enemy's chief of staff, Refa'el Eytan, has made against Syria, Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance. AL-KHALIJ, which is published in Ash-Shariqah, notes that while the Arabs are busy trying to find a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli dispute, the Israeli enemy's chief of staff, Refa'el Eytan, is threatening to launch a war against Syria, the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese National Movement, if the missiles are not removed from Lebanon. His threat comes at a time when a new U.S. aircraft carrier has joined the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean and in the midst of a tense situation among many Arab countries. The situation has reached the point that some of them have announced their willingness to have the United States assist in resolving the inter-Arab dispute.

The paper notes the link between the statement by the chief of staff of the enemy's army, statements by the commander of the Rapid Deployment Force on the Gulf area and U.S. preparations for anticipated operations.

AL-KHALIJ stresses that all this indicates nothing new in the area except that the enemies of the Arab nation are moving swiftly to finish it off.

The paper asks what response the Arabs will make to foil this aggressive behavior or at least to alleviate the danger. It adds that by reviewing our position and the action of the other side, this question can be answered by saying that nothing new is occurring in the area. It says that if we expect a satisfactory outcome, everyone must work toward a realistic solution that will not allow General Eytan to raise his voice against the presence of Arab weapons in Arab territory and that will not allow the 6th Fleet to conduct maneuvers in the Mediterranean. The most important thing is not to let the Arab citizen always be complacent.

ROMANIAN MINISTER OF STATE LEAVES ABU DHABI

GF251530 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY 1327 GMT 25 Oct 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Oct (ENA) -- Vasile Pungan, Romanian minister of state and adviser to President Nicolae Ceausescu, left the UAE for home early today at the end of a 2-day visit.

During his visit, the Romanian envoy delivered a letter from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan concerning bilateral relations and matters of common interest. He was seen off at the airport by Foreign Ministry officials.

OFFICIALS RECEIVE HUNGARIAN TRADE DELEGATION

GF272008 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1848 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Dubayy, 27 Oct (GNA) -- Officials in the Dubayy Chamber of Commerce and Industry met today with a Hungarian trade delegation which is currently visiting the UAE led by (Zamb Roy), the trade manager of the Hungarian Aluminum Corporation. During the meeting the officials discussed the possibilities of benefiting from Hungarian expertise in the aluminum industry field. The Hungarian delegation expressed its country's readiness to cooperate in all fields related to this industry.

The Hungarian delegation arrived in Dubayy yesterday for a 4-day visit during which it will meet with officials of the Dubayy aluminum company. It is worth noting that the aluminum smelting factory in Dubayy began production last year and is currently producing about 135,000 tons per year.

CABINET MEETS, APPROVES MARITIME LAW 26 OCT

GF261159 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Excerpt] In its meeting today, Under Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad, the UAE Cabinet approved the first maritime law of its kind in the UAE. The law -- which was proposed by the Communications Ministry -- regulates the passage of ships through UAE territorial waters, their obligations to UAE ports, franchise and mortgage rights, seizure of ships and the listing of ships in a special record that will be prepared by the ministry.

The law provides for establishing a UAE commercial fleet, whose ships will fly the UAE flag and will regulate and expand internal and foreign trade.

ZAYID RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM ALGERIAN PRESIDENT

GF251207 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 25 Oct 81

[Text] President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has received a message from Algerian President Chedli Bendjedid on bilateral relations, the means of bolstering them and the current Arab situation. The message was delivered by the Algerian ambassador to the UAE, Al-Hashimi al-Qadduri, during his meeting with the president at Al-Maqam Palace in Al-'Ayn this morning.

KAMAL HASAN 'ALI RETURNS FROM ISRAEL 27 OCT

NC271958 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali returned to Cairo this evening from Tel Aviv where he headed the Egyptian delegation to the second round of meetings of the Egyptian-Israeli higher committee. He held talks with Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon and Prime Minister Menahem Begin. It was agreed during these talks to resume autonomy negotiations at the ministerial level on 4 November.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali stated that the aim of the present Egyptian-Israeli negotiations is to achieve autonomy. He said his talks with Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon dealt with normalization and measures that should be taken between now and the complete withdrawal from Sinai on 25 April.

'Ali said that on the question of autonomy it became clear that there is a conflict of views. He emphasized that the peace process must always be pushed forward.

On how he envisages the next Egyptian-Israeli phase, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said that the peace process will continue, that the implementation of the related agreements will continue even after the withdrawal, and that Egypt will not change its policy.

He pointed out that the technical working groups will hold a series of meetings in the coming period to fulfill the second part of Camp David, on autonomy. These meetings, he said, will be held during the coming 3 months.

On Prince Fahd's plan and whether there is a conflict between that plan and Camp David, 'Ali said that Camp David is the existing fact and that the stress must be on it. Prince Fahd's plan, he said, contains many positive aspects and must therefore be taken into consideration.

He also said that during the meetings of the Higher Committee on Normalization and Withdrawal From Sinai exploration work was intensified in the fields of trade, transport, communications, and tourism for the next 3 months. He affirmed that the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai will be completed on schedule.

On the participation of international forces in the peacekeeping operation in Sinai, he said that indeed positive replies have been received from Latin America, Europe, Australia and other states on participation in the force.

Reports to Mubarak

NC281050 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0940 GMT 28 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 28 Oct (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning met in Al-'Urubah Palace with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali. 'Ali said he presented Mubarak a full report on the recent round of autonomy discussions held in Israel in the last 2 days.

Asked about Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's statements reported by Israeli radio yesterday that Israel will not recognize the PLO even if the latter recognizes Israel and if this represents a new obstacle in the autonomy talks, 'Ali told reporters: There is no doubt that Israel will adopt another stand if the PLO recognizes it, because this step will create a new situation that must be fully considered by the Israelis.

Asked if it is true that Israel will present a working paper on holding elections in the West Bank and Gaza in a democratic and direct ballot, 'Ali said: This is premature. After the 4 November meetings we will know the Israeli proposals precisely.

We are not saying that we will adopt the Israeli paper on proposals as they are because we have our views and they have their own. What is important is arriving at a formula acceptable to the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza and suitable for action in the future.

Asked about Egypt's views on these procedures, 'Ali said: I will make a full statement on this to be broadcast today after the 1800 or 2100 television newscast.

Asked about the date of the visit to Egypt by Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon, 'Ali said that it will be a 1-day visit between 15 and 18 November.

On whether President Mubarak had any specific instructions as regards the Israeli withdrawal, Hasan 'Ali said that all steps already adopted and those to be adopted in the coming phase will tend to facilitate the process of handing over the remaining part of Sinai for both sides.

To another question regarding the Israeli move for progress in the autonomy talks, 'Ali said this will appear in the next round of discussions.

MENA ON 'ALI, SHARON TEL AVIV PRESS CONFERENCE

NC272016 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1915 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Tel Aviv, 27 Oct (MENA) -- At a press conference he held with Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon at Ben-Gurion Airport before leaving for Cairo, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said his discussions in Israel were constructive for several reasons: in the field of normalization, there has been very good progress. The activities of the joint higher committee together with the normalization subcommittees have turned the normalization process into a process of natural relations between the two countries.

'Ali added: These relations and agreements indicate the possibility of peaceful coexistence in the region and they are an example that can be followed. He expressed his gratitude to Israel for the assurances by Navon, Begin, Shamir and Burg regarding the implementation of the peace agreements.

'Ali said his visit to Israel was a confirmation of the desire of both countries to go ahead with the normalization process and the implementation of all agreements according to the set timetables. He added that the visit also comes at the time of the meeting of the tripartite Egyptian-Israeli-American working group, which seeks to reach an agreement on autonomy for the Palestinians in implementation of the second Camp David agreement so as to establish the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and establish a comprehensive and just peace in the region. What has been achieved at the Joint Higher Committee for Normalization and Withdrawal from Sinai he said, has, to a large extent, pushed forward the normalization issues.

Answering a question, 'Ali emphasized that Arab Jerusalem is part of the West Bank, a matter Egypt had previously stressed. He said that this issue will be discussed. Concerning the settlements, 'Ali said: This is one of the points of disagreement between us. We must discuss the problem and reach an agreement. These two points are among the most important points of disagreement between us.

At the press conference, 'Ali also said: Jerusalem and the settlements are the most significant points of disagreement between us concerning the question of autonomy and comprehensive peace. We must discuss all problems and reach an agreement on them.

'Ali expressed his belief that with goodwill it was possible to reach an agreement on these points of disagreement. He referred to the proposal of departed leader Anwar as-Sadat on Jerusalem and said: We will leave these problems for the tripartite ministerial meeting to debate.

Answering another question, 'Ali said that during Begin's visit to Alexandria, departed leader As-Sadat and Menahem Begin agreed to resume the autonomy negotiations. What we are doing now is an implementation of the agreement between As-Sadat and Begin to resume the negotiations. They were actually resumed in Cairo last September. We agreed to hold four meetings of the working groups concerned with autonomy. This is the first meeting and it is being held in Tel Aviv. The second meeting will be held at the ministerial level in Cairo on 4 November to give a push to the autonomy negotiations.

'Ali and Sharon were asked how the United States will participate in the autonomy tripartite discussions which the Egyptian and Israeli sides agreed to hold in Cairo on 4 November in the absence of the U.S. side. 'Ali said: Begin contacted the United States and the three of us decided on the date of the meeting and the level of representation before announcing it to you. At this point Sharon said: We want to emphasize that Egypt and Israel are two (?independent) states which can sit together, talk, and discuss the various problems and find solutions to them. Sharon added: We appreciate the importance of the U.S. participation. When Begin contacted the Americans on this subject, he naturally invited them to participate in the discussion next week.

Asked about the situation vis-a-vis the settlements and their consideration as an obstacle, Sharon said: The settlements are a question which concerns us. I affirm that Arabs and Jews have lived for many years in this part of the world from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean. There are 600,000 Arab Israeli citizens now living among us. I repeat: I can see nobody who can possibly draw a line which would help separate the Arabs and Jews in this part of the world. The Jews and Arabs must live in peace, side by side. This is our policy and belief. And this is the goal which we are trying to achieve -- the Arabs and Jews living in peace side by side.

Answering another question, Sharon said: There are several important things on which there must be an agreement. There are disagreements in points of view on several issues related to the autonomy. Agreement could be reached on some of these issues. I believe that our efforts will center on solving the problems between Egypt and Israel that could be solved and that each of us has the desire to do so. Camp David has left several subjects to be discussed with the participation of other sides. I mean by these sides Jordan and the Arab inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. We believe that an agreement could be reached on the basic principles and that others should be left, as stipulated in the Camp David accords, until the participation of the other sides.

Answering the same question, 'Ali said: At the autonomy negotiations, we must act according to the Camp David provisions. We never speak in the name of the Palestinians. According to the Camp David agreements, they alone have the right to decide what they want. We must continue our negotiations and must not freeze them as we did before. We have the desire to think, work and make decisions. I hope we will reach an agreement in the near future. We have no option but to continue our discussions until we reach an agreement.

'ALI, SHARON REACH AGREEMENT ON TOURISM

NC272214 Cairo MENA in English 1825 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Tel Aviv, 27 Oct (MENA) -- The joint Egyptian-Israeli higher committee concluding its meeting here today under Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon reached an agreement for organizing tourism between the two countries, particularly in southern Sinai.

The agreement stipulates the setting up of Egyptian and Israeli consulates at Elat and Sharm ash-Shaykh respectively to be opened through the diplomatic channels.

Four check-points along the Egypt-Israeli international borders would be set up following the final Israeli withdrawal to take place on schedule as it was re-affirmed by the Israeli side. The first position would be set up at the Al-Qantarah-Rafah-Ashoud Road, the second at the Beersheba-Ismailia Road, the third at the Negev-Elat Road and the fourth at the Elat-Beersheba.

CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF VISITS 2D FIELD ARMY 26 OCT

NC271910 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Lt Gen 'Abd Rabb an-Nabi Hafiz spent yesterday visiting the 2d Field Army; he inspected some of the army's units and held a meeting with the army's command, including a group of commanders, officers and men. He spoke about the dimensions of the current situation and stressed that the armed forces are Egypt's shield, which must remain strong with its men and their determination to continue their training and take care of their weapons and equipment while adhering to the rules of military discipline wherever they may be. The armed forces chief of staff also inspected some formations of central military zone units in [words indistinct].

LABOR PARTY LEADERS APPEAR BEFORE PROSECUTOR

NC271811 Paris AFP in English 1754 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 27 Oct (AFP) -- Only four of the six opposition Labour Party officials arrested last month for their part in Egypt's "religious revolt" have so far appeared before the "socialist prosecutor" investigating the incident, Labor Party President Ibrahim Shukri said today.

He told press that the remaining two, Labour Vice-President Hilmi Murad and top party official Kamal Faraj, had not yet appeared before the prosecutor.

On Saturday, President Husni Mubarak said that all those arrested in the September 3 crack-down ordered by former President Anwar as-Sadat would be released if no charges had been laid against them. Two thirds of the 1,536 people said officially to have been arrested were religious fundamentalists. But about 100 well-known liberals and members of officially-tolerated opposition parties were also arrested.

The Cairo press reported that 27 people including a former interior minister under ex-King Faruq, Fu'ad Siraj ad-Din, were questioned by the prosecutor today. Informed sources said that Muslim Brotherhood "Supreme Guide" 'Umar at-Tilmisani had not responded to questions put to him because of exhaustion prior to his arrest.

SUDANESE FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER MEETS MUBARAK

NC271048 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 27 Oct (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning met in Al-'Urubah Palace with Sudanese Foreign Affairs Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak from whom he received a written message from President Ja'far Numayri. The meeting, which lasted about 1 hour, was attended by Sudanese Ambassador in Cairo 'Abd ar-Rahman Sulayman.

After the meeting, [Sudan's] Mubarak said that his meeting with President Mubarak today was to complement the discussions on the development and strengthening of relations between the two countries and on complete coordination between them.

Asked if President Mubarak gave him a message from President Numayri, he said: President Mubarak gave me a message for President Numayri in reply to his message which I delivered to his excellency. He said that this message includes support of the consultations recently held between the two presidents.

Commenting on repeated reports about a merger between Egypt and Sudan, [Sudan's] Mubarak said that the report was incorrect. He added that the most important thing now was to bring about coordination between the two countries and proceed with it to the end and then we will see where this coordination has led us to.

On the present situation between Sudan and Chad, [Sudan's] Mubarak said: We hope that prosperity and stability will prevail in the region through the national unity in Chad under the auspices of the OAU.

Asked if he expected the U.S. M-60 tanks to Sudan to create a new situation increasing Sudan's defensive power, [Sudan's] Mubarak said: Certainly, any arms given to any country will increase its defensive power.

Asked if the Sudan was invited to attend the Arab summit conference to be held in Morocco, he said: Certainly we have been invited.

About the proposals which Sudan will raise at the conference, [Sudan's] Mubarak said: We have not so far received the agenda. The topics are not limited because these are presented to the Secretariat General which then refers them to the foreign ministers meeting to draw up the agenda.

Asked if there were Libyan threats to Sudan, [Sudan's] Mubarak said: We have greatly welcomed the Libyan Government's statement which, I believe, was a rational step on its part because as neighbors we must live in peace and as Arabs we must be in solidarity. In fact, we welcome this statement.

Asked if there were some difficulties and troubles on the Sudanese-Chadian border, [Sudan's] Mubarak said: There are, but we feel that we are in a better position and we hope that the situation in the region will improve.

Asked if relations will be resumed between Sudan and Libya, he said: Not now, but we continue to welcome the statement they have issued. I believe the question will take some time before we reach the end and implementation of what they previously declared in this respect begins. About the Sudanese working in Libya, he said that many of them have returned to Sudan.

MUBARAK ISSUES ASSEMBLY, COUNCIL SESSION DECREES

NC271322 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today issued a republican decree inviting the People's Assembly to meet at 1100 on Saturday, 7 November, to begin the third ordinary session of the third legislative term.

He also issued a decree inviting the Consultative Council to meet at 1000 on Saturday, 7 November, to begin the second ordinary session.

His excellency issued another decree inviting the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council to a joint meeting at 1100 on Sunday, 8 November when the president of the republic will deliver a political speech.

In his political speech on 8 November the president of the republic will deal with the general state policy in the coming stage and Egypt's internal and external policies and the serious and distinctive work required in the coming stage in the various national sectors to achieve political, economic and social stability.

OPPOSITION LABOR PARTY SUPPORTS MUBARAK'S POLICY

NC261726 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1527 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 26 Oct (MENA) -- The opposition Socialist Labor Party has expressed its satisfaction with statements President Husni Mubarak has made since he assumed the presidency of the republic to the effect that there will be no going back on democracy and that there will be exchanges of views with the opposition.

In a statement issued today following a meeting by its political committee, the party expressed deep satisfaction with President Husni Mubarak's declaration that he will only resort to martial law in the narrowest limits, that he will not exploit it for political objectives and that the detained who are proved innocent will be released as soon as the investigation ends.

The statement further expresses satisfaction with the call by President Husni Mubarak for the establishment of a puritanical society [mujtama' At-taharah], following up the policy of reward and punishment and giving equal opportunities to citizens in the various aspects of life as well as with his statement that there will be no discrimination between those who are close [to him] and those who are not, or between supporters and opponents.

The statement says that the party agrees with the priorities President Husni Mubarak has defined for the problems of the masses, mainly the housing problem and ensuring that subsidies reach those who deserve them.

The statement describes President Mubarak's suspension of the propaganda campaigns against the Arab states and his announcement that Egypt will not start an attack against any Arab country as a wise policy which helps the creation of an appropriate atmosphere for an objective dialogue between Egypt and the Arabs.

The statement expresses full support for President Mubarak's policy of openness and his declaration that there should be a production openness [infitah intaji] in the service of the citizens.

Following the meeting, Labor Party leader Eng Ibrahim Shukri said that Israel's withdrawal from Sinai would be a great achievement for the Camp David agreements. He demanded the full implementation of the agreements so as to establish a comprehensive peace in the Arab region and solve the Palestinian problem. He stressed that the evacuation of Sinai would constitute the beginning of a solution to the Palestinian problem. He said that the party's role after the withdrawal will focus on creating the appropriate atmosphere for the restoration of Arab solidarity. Engineer Shukri emphasized that the current state requires everyone to cooperate and that we should be united as one man to establish stability.

On issuing a paper by the party, Shukri said that the party will issue a newspaper which will express the views of the Labor Party and the opposition, but that the present circumstances demand that we wait a little before making this decision.

Engineer Shukri issued a decision today providing for the formation of a political committee for the party. The committee will consist of the members of the party's bureau and its members at the People's Assembly and it will remain in constant session because of the party's realization of the delicate state through which the country is passing and in order that the party may discharge its full duties in a way compatible with the importance of the current state.

LIBERAL PARTY ON COMBATING 'FANATICISM'

PM261459 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 19 Oct 81 p 1

[Hilmi Salim report: "We Have a Different Opinion About Confronting Fanaticism"]

[Text] The Liberal [Socialist] Party has emphasized that the fanaticism of a majority of youth and its tendency to violence are because of two factors. The first is the erroneous information it receives about the teachings and true principles of religion; the second is the failure to conduct an objective dialogue with youth to learn its views and to confront these views with argument and proof.

During its meeting last Tuesday under party leader Mustafa Makil Murad, the Liberal Party General Secretariat discussed the Asyut events, which were triggered by religious fanatics. The general secretary affirmed that the security organs' confrontation and aborting of these incidents is required in order to deal with violence, but a radical solution to the problem is also necessary. Such a solution cannot be achieved by the security organs.

The members of the General Secretariat called for opening the door of dialogue to youth and for encouraging it to join the political parties in order to put forward its views in a clear and frank manner, to find logical answers to what goes on in young minds and to learn the methods of political action and sound democratic dialogue.

The Liberal General Secretariat emphasized the need to make a serious study of youth problems and find practical solutions to them. The General Secretariat called on the government to reconsider the method of teaching religion in schools and universities. It also appealed to the Muslim and Christian clergy to publish religious books explaining to youth the real philosophy of divine religions in a simple manner, in order to kill the spirit of fanaticism and violence within them.

The Liberal Party General Secretariat also appealed to the national information media to intensify religious information. It also called for the revival of the valuable religious lectures which the television used to broadcast keenly and regularly and for the coordination of these lectures so as to include a religious dialogue between youth and the religious clergy.

The General Secretariat emphasized that there were many matters awaiting the government during the coming phase, including economic problems, the reorganization of the government machinery, the ruling party's relationship with the opposition parties and the task of enabling these parties to play an effective role in the life of the citizens and to present the other view, so that the acceptance of this view may be a manner of behavior.

The Liberal Party General Secretariat also asserted that strengthening our relations ment's success or failure by its tangible work which directly affects him. It called for the allocation of some aid to projects which the citizens can perceive.

On foreign policy, the General Secretariat stressed that the strengthening our relations with the Western world is necessary, but we must keep the door open to the Arab states.

RELIGIOUS MINISTER ON RESISTING COMMUNIST PLOTS

NC262243 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2135 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 26 Oct (MENA) -- Minister of State for Religious Trusts Dr Zakariya al-Birri has affirmed that the men of the Islamic call [rijal ad-da'wah al-Islamiyah] in Egypt are extremely vigilant to resist communist plots.

During his meeting with journalist (Buba Ofra), a White House correspondent who is currently in Cairo, Dr Zakariya said that America's delay in resolving the Palestinian issue will enable Russia in the Middle East the Soviet Union has a presence in Libry, Syria, Southern Yemen and Afghanistan. [sentence as received]

Meanwhile, during his meeting with (David Daily), a broadcaster with the British Broadcasting [Corporation], Dr Zakariya said that communism is against religion and works on instigating youths. Egyptian youths are believers and adhere to Islam. The youths in the universities have nothing to do with extremism and there is no one among them who sympathizes with the extremist groups.

The minister of religious trusts said that Egypt is one of the Islamic countries with the utmost adherence to the heavenly laws and that the members of the extremist terrorism groups will be given a just public trial because the government does not follow a procedure of repression but adopts measures according to the supremacy of the law.

GHALI MONDAY MORNING INTERVIEW ON MIDEAST TOPICS

NC231104 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 19-25 Oct 81 pp 47-51

[By Mona as-Sa'd]

[Text] The Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Butrus Butrus Ghali, last week described the Arab League as "illegal" and ruled out any possibility of Egypt making the first move towards reconciliation with the Arab states.

In a private interview with MONDAY MORNING, Ghali added that since it was the Arab states which severed diplomatic relations with Cairo, they must take the first step if they wished to restore relations.

Egypt would welcome such a move, the minister said, but he warned that "Egypt is determined to proceed with the normalization process with Israel, a fact that should be clear to any Arab country when thinking about resuming relations with Egypt."

Ghali's statements appeared to end the hopes repeatedly expressed by Arab leaders and media after the October 6 assassination of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat that Egypt might now return to the "Arab fold," perhaps as early as next month, by attending the Arab League's scheduled summit in November.

Commenting on French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson's statement last week that the assassination of As-Sadat had removed one of the obstacles preventing Arab unity, Ghali said: "I do not agree with that unfortunate remark by Claude Cheysson." He also rejected Arab suggestions that the new Egyptian president, Husni Mubarak, had committed himself to As-Sadat's policy only as a "formality." What President Mubarak has said is certainly not a formality," he said. "The As-Sadat policies concerning the Middle East crisis represent a basic principle in our foreign policy."

Egypt, he added, would continue the Camp David policies "as long as there are no other viable alternatives being developed and accepted by the parties concerned."

Asked whether he considered the eight-point peace plan of Saudi Crown Prince Fahd a good base for peace negotiations in the Middle East and a possible rallying point for Egypt and the rest of the Arab states, Ghali appeared to leave that door open.

We are in favor of any initaitive which may help solve the Palestinian question and meet with the approval of all the parties concerned, " he said. "We have already expressed our support for the Saudi proposals and we are waiting to see how they are going to become operative."

Perhaps significantly, the Egyptian minister chose not to answer a question about a possible imminent reconciliation between Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

Commenting on reports quoting Mubarak as saying that his "methods" would differ from As-Sadat's Ghali said: "Each leader has his own style, but the basic principles of the Egyptian policy will remain the same."

The minister challenged the widespread speculation that As-Sadat's assassination was the direct result of Israel's refusal to give any concessions in its negotiations with Egypt on the future of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza.

Pointing out that the Islamic fundamentalists whom Egypt is holding responsible for the assassination had engaged in acts of violence in the days of King Faruq and President Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, "when there was no peace process going with Israel," he said: "The same fundamentalists are active in a number of Arab countries which reject the peace process with Israel" -- a reference to the outlawed Moslem Brotherhood's activities in Syria.

"Thus," he said, "there is no direct correlation between the peace process and the fundamentalists."

Ghali rejected the suggestion that the mass arrests before the assassination and the violence after it indicated that the Egyptian opposition was more widespread and stronger than previously believed.

"Egypt is a very stable country," he said. "Fanatics represent a very marginal group in the community with no popular support.... Those fundamentalists have always represented a very small minority in Egyptian society and do not in any way reflect the general trend among the Egyptian population."

All arrests in Egypt "are made according to the existing Egyptian laws," he added in answer to a question as to whether the As-Sadat crackdown on the political opposition would now be phased out. "All those who were arrested lately will be tried before the competent courts, and those who are proved innocent will be released immedately."

Recalling that Egypt had sent the U.S. two notes in 1978 and 1980 "urging that Israel should adopt suitable measures aiming at building confidence among the Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza, "Ghali expressed the hope that Israel would now "respond favorably to our requests in order to create a better political climate in the West Bank and Gaza to encourage the Palestinians to participate, either directly or indirectly, in the peace process."

Asked whether Egypt expected more pressure on Israel towards that goal, the minister stated simply that the U.S. was a full partner in the Egyptian-Israeli talks on Palestinian autonomy "and had made it clear on many occasions that it intends to continue to support our diplomatic efforts in favor of the Palestinians."

As for the defense assistance Egypt expected from the U.S. after the assassination of As-Sadat, Ghali said that American-Egyptian relations were based on the principles of international law, mutual respect and noninterference in internal affairs.

"Through this constructive relationship, Egypt fulfills certain requirements of its security needs," he added. And in the event of an attack on Sudan, Ghali said, "Egypt will act according to the stipulations" of the 1950 Joint Arab Defense Treaty and the Egyptian-Sudanese Defense Treaty.

[Question] Mr Mubarak has announced that he will continue As-Sadat's policies without change, but several Arab leaders, including some members of the Egyptian opposition, have suggested that this announcement is more a "formality" than a firm commitment. Do you think there is any chance that the new Egyptian administration will amend Mr as-Sadat's policies on the question of Middle Eastern peace?

[Answer] What President Mubarak has said is certainly not a "formality." The As-Sadat policies concerning the Middle East crisis represent a basic principle in our foreign policy. Egypt intends to continue the peace process established by the Camp David agreements as long as there are no other viable alternatives being developed and accepted by the parties concerned.

[Question] Mr Mubarak has been quoted as saying that although he will maintain Mr as-Sadat's policies, he may use "different methods." Is this quote accurate, and if so, what kind of change can we expect in the Egyptian approach?

[Answer] Each leader has his own style, but the basic principles of the Egyptian policy will remain the same.

[Question] The Arab League and several Arab leaders have issued an invitation to Egypt to rejoin Arab ranks. How does Egypt intend to respond to this invitation now that Mr Mubarak has been established as the country's new president?

[Answer] First, we do not recognize the so-called Arab League in Tunis, which is illegal. Second, it was the Arab states which severed diplomatic relations with Egypt. Thus, if they want to resume these relations, they are welcome, but Egypt does not intend to take the first step.

[Question] If Egypt does not intend to take the initiative, does it at least plan to take steps to encourage the Arabs to do so, keeping in mind that no Arab move towards Egypt is likely as long as Egyptian-Israeli relations remain standing?

[Answer] Egypt is determined to proceed with the normalization process with Israel, a fact that should be clear to any Arab country when thinking about resuming relations with Egypt.

[Question] What is your comment on Mr Cheysson's remark that the assassination of President as-Sadat removes one of the obstacles blocking Arab unity?

[Answer] I do not agree with that unfortunate remark by Claude Cheysson.

[Question] Do you agree with Mr Haig that Egyptian-Saudi reconciliation is imminent?

[Answer] No answer.

[Question] Does Egypt expect Israel to offer more concessions now, to help it through the difficult stage ahead? If so, what concessions does it expect?

[Answer] We have already sent two notes to the United States -- the first on 13 October 1978 and the second on 13 October 1980 -- urging that Israel should adopt suitable measures aiming at building confidence among the Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza.

We are hoping that now, after the resumption of the tripartite talks on full Palestinian autonomy, Israel will respond favorably to our requests in order to create a better political climate in the West Bank and Gaza to encourage the Palestinians to participate, either directly or indirectly, in the peace process.

[Question] Do you agree with those who are saying that it is Israel's intransigence that is primarily responsible for Mr as-Sadat's assassination?

[Answer] Acts of violence and attempts at assassination carried out by fundamentalist elements have taken place in Egypt before. This happened during the time of King Faruk and the time of President 'Abd an-Nasir, when there was no peace process going with Israel. Those fundamentalists have always represented a very small minority in Egyptian society and do not in any way reflect the general trend among the Egyptian population.

I find myself in no need to recall that the same fundamentalists are active in a number of Arab countries which reject the peace process with Israel. Thus, there is no direct correlation between the peace process and the fundamentalists.

[Question] Does Egypt expect the U.S. to be more forceful and decisive now in pressuring Israel towards the required concessions and in bolstering Egyptian defense?

[Answer] This question deals with two different aspects. The first concerns the Palestinian autonomy negotiations, in which the USA is taking the role of a full partner and has made it clear on many occasions that it intends to continue to support our diplomatic efforts in favor of the Palestinians.

As for the second aspect, which concerns the bilateral relations between Egypt and the USA, these relations are based upon mutual respect and the principle of non-interference in each other's internal affairs, and upon the principles of international law. Through this constructive relationship, Egypt fulfills certain requirements of its security needs.

[Question] Do you regard the statements made by Presidents Carter and Ford in favor of a U.S.-PLO dialogue to be the beginning of a shift in U.S. policy? Despite Mr Reagan's denial that such a change is imminent, do you expect a PLO-U.S. dialogue to start in the foreseeable future?

[Answer] We have always believed that is is essential to maintain a dialogue between the U.S. and the Palestinians in the peace process. We invited the PLO in November 1977 to participate in the Mena House talks with the USA and Israel; we kept their seat at the negotiating table and we flew their flag. Unfortunately, the PLO declined to accept this invitation, which would have led to the first step towards mutual recognition.

[Question] How do you evaluate the Soviet Union's reaction to Mr as-Sadat's assassination and its subsequent charge that the U.S. is interfering in Egypt's internal affairs?

[Answer] We have already issued a communique on this matter that clearly states our point of view.

[Question] The violence in Asyut and elsewhere in Egypt, coupled with the mass arrests that preceded the assassination, has given the impression that Egyptian opposition to Mr as-Sadat's policies is more widespread and stronger than previously believed. How much of a threat do you believe the opposition poses to the new administration? Do you expect the violence to spread, as Mr Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili has predicted?

[Answer] The assessment put in your question is far from being correct. Egypt is a very stable country. Fanatics represent a very marginal group in the community with no popular support.

[Question] Is there any chance that the new administration will release the thousands of political prisoners in Egyptian jails, as the opposition has demanded, and start a dialogue with the opposition instead of continuing the crackdown on it?

[Answer] All arrests that take place in Egypt are made according to the existing Egyptian laws. All those who were arrested lately will be tried before the competent courts, and those who are proved innocent will be released immediately.

[Question] Official sources in Washington are predicting that Sudan will be "the next hot spot." What will Egypt's reaction be in the event of internal trouble in Sudan or external attack on it?

[Answer] Egypt and Sudan are both parties to the Joint Arab Defense Treaty signed in 1950. Furthermore, the two countries have concluded a bilateral defense treaty. In case of any aggression against the Sudan, Egypt will act according to the stipulations of these treaties.

[Question] The EC is now saying that Crown Prince Fahd's eight principles constitute a good base for peace negotiations in the Middle East. Do you regard the Fahd proposals as a possible uniting factor that could help bring Egypt and the rest of the Arabs together again?

[Answer] We never pretended to have a monopoly on the process of searching for peace in the Middle East. We are in favor of any initiative which may help solve the Palestinian question and meet with the approval of all the parties concerned. We have already expressed our support for the Saudi proposals and we are waiting to see how they are going to become operative.

ARABIC WEEKLY ASSESSES OPERATION BRIGHT STAR

GF271610 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 23 Oct 81 pp 29, 30

[Article by David Bishai: "The Expansion of Egyptian-U.S. Maneuvers Includes Sudan, Somalia and Oman. Four Objectives of Operation 'Bright Star.' The Red Sea Replaces the Strait of Hormuz"]

[Excerpts] Last Monday morning U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger was holding an extraordinary meeting with the three chiefs of staff in the U.S. Pentagon's operations room. The conferees discussed a lengthy verbal message from U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, who was at the time preparing to leave Cairo for Washington after having taken part in the funeral of former Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat. The entire message dealt with military matters which Haig was asked to discuss with the new president, Husni Mubarak, and Sundanese President Muhammad Ja'far Numayri, during his stay in Cairo.

After the meeting an order was issued from the operations room to Tinker Airbase in the state of Oklahoma. The order stated that two AWACS planes should be quickly prepared and as soon as they are ready they should take off for Cairo West Airbase. At the same time another order went to the U.S. airbase in Fairford in western Britain -- the airbase responsible for midflight refuellings -- to be ready to refuel the AWACS as well as other plans on their way from the United States to Egypt. Orders were also issued to all U.S. bases in Britain and the Mediterranean to be in a state of complete readiness until further notice.

On Wednesday morning the two AWACS planes took off from Tinker Airbase for Cairo West. The two planes were refuelled by tanker aircraft over the southern coast of Britain and continued their flight to Egypt nonstop. At the same time the huge aircraft carrier Nimitz was steaming near the Egyptian coast toward Alexandria to receive the signals and reports of the AWACS planes -- because the equipment currently available in Egypt is incapable of dealing with the AWACS sophisticated electronic equipment.

A third and more important decision was then made by the Pentagon -- to expand the sphere of the joint military exercises which the Egyptian and U.S. forces are scheduled to hold next month to include Oman and Somalia, and more important, to be held with the participation of the Sudanese Armed Forces and on Sudanese territory. It was announced that these joint exercises will last an entire month from 9 November until 6 December. It was also decided that for the first time the eight-engined B-52 nuclear bombers would take part in these exercises in the same way as the AWACS planes. The B-52 bombers would take off from their base in North Dakota for the western desert in Egypt and for Sudan. They would be refuelled in flight by tankers from Fairford Airbase in Britain. The B-52's will then hit specific targets in the western desert and Sudan and then return to their base in the United States without landing at any other airport.

Another communique states that the exercises will include the landing of U.S. Marines on Egypt's northern shores and on Omani and Somali shores, as well as the landing of airborne troops of the 82d Airborne Division in the western desert. When the U.S. military made all their decisions they named the forthcoming joint exercises "Bright Star." It is clear that this serious expansion of joint military maneuvers -- which were originally supposed to include Egypt and the United States only and last 10 days, like last year's exercises -- has four specific objectives.

The first objective is to respond to the Soviet warning that U.S. moves in the region in the wake of As-Sadat's assassination pose a threat to the Soviet Union's security. A Soviet statement declared: "What is happening in Egypt definitely affects the Soviet Union's security interests. The Soviet Union will follow these developments with interest." Washington decided that the forthcoming exercises will be a counter-warning to the Soviet Union that the United States will not accept any Soviet interference in the affairs of the region which the United States considers of vital interest to it and does not allow interference of any kind in this area.

The second objective primarily concerns Libya, and also the tripartite alliance of Libya, Ethiopia and the PDRY. In the days prior to As-Sadat's death the campaign against Libya and the accusations that it was repeatedly committing aggression on Sudan's western borders intensified. After As-Sadat's death this campaign escalated: Libya was accused of engineering plots in the past to assassinate As-Sadat, of attempting to send suicide squads to kill him, attempting to create sedition in Egypt and undermining Egypt's internal security situation, such as the bomb explosion aboard a Maltese airlines plane after landing at Cairo Airport. This was followed by warnings from Washington that it was prepared to assist Sudan in safeguarding its security and that it had decided to supply it with aircraft, tanks and other weapons to face the so-called Libyan threats.

At the same time the decision to carry out large-scale landing operations by the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force on the Somali shores was a warning to the new tripartite alliance that the United States is capable of strong and effective military action in the area, and that it would be better for this alliance to confine itself within its borders and not attempt to influence events in the Horn of Africa. White House sources claim that the Libyan leader, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, has allocated $900 million for the budget of his alliance with Libya and Ethiopia and that he has paid $100 million as a first installment. Some U.S. sources assert that the alliance's role is to tighten a pincer movement around Sudan and to confront the U.S. presence in the region centered on the Somali island of Berbera, and soon-- in the Egyptian Red Sea base of Ra's Banas.

The third objective of the exercise is the security of the Red Sea -- which will become part of the new U.S. strategy -- the new oil outlet now that the Gulf has become too dangerous as a result of the Iraqi-Iranian war and the proximity of the Soviet forces in Afghanistan, which the West believes will remain there indefinitely. Thus despite the U.S. military presence, the Rapid Deployment Force and the transportation of the Diego Garcia base into a military bastion controlling the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea, it would yet be impossible to bear the cutting off of oil routes passing through the Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz if hostilities should break out in the area. Even if these routes are only cut off for several weeks it would be intolerable for the West. The alternative artery that safeguards the continued flow of oil to the West is thus the oil pipeline from Ra's Tannurah [on the Saudi side of the Gulf] to the Red Sea port of Yanbu' which coincidentally lies on the shore opposite the Ra's Banas base.

The task of this new base, when it is completed at a cost of $1.2 billion, will primarily be to protect the Red Sea's shipping routes so that passage along these routes will not stop for a single moment even in the event of hostilities. The greater part of this new base will be devoted to the use of the Rapid Deployment Force and the naval and air forces supporting it, including the landing crafts, the AWACS and Hawkeye planes which will watch over the [Ra's Tannurah-Yanbu'] oil pipeline and its depots.

The fourth objective is a muscle-flexing demonstration to stress that the United States is prepared to and capable of protecting its interests and the interests of its friends in the region against any threat to it from any quarter, be it from within the region or from outside it. A few days after As-Sadat's assassination, Richard Allen, the White House adviser for national security affairs, said that the United States has decided to expand its protective umbrella over the region and that, despite the stability of the new situation in Egypt, it is necessary to "expand this protection to include any other countries that may become a target of aggression or interference in their internal affairs."

However, such a protective umbrella always needs a stable base that is well insured against any changes. The U.S. decision is that Egypt is the best base politically and strategically for this U.S. umbrella, As-Sadat's assassination notwithstanding. When As-Sadat was assassinated it was said that his assassination would upset the U.S. strategic balance in the region. However, the assassination has not led to U.S. flight from Egypt but to the consolidation of its position there. To strengthen its presence in Egypt the United States decided to increase and improve Egypt's armament.

The United States supplied Egypt with new arms so quickly that it had to withdraw these arms from other countries allied to the United States, including West European countries that are members of the NATO alliance. Moreover, the meetings of the Egyptian-U.S. joint military committees -- scheduled to begin in 2 weeks -- have actually begun.

What is now important, following the Soviet warning, is what steps the Soviet Union will take to confront this unusual U.S. activity which has far exceeded U.S. moves in Western Europe in the months after World War II when Washington wanted to protect its interests there?

BRIEFS

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH FINLAND -- Cairo, 26 Oct (MENA) -- A technical cooperation agreement in the field of electricity was signed today between Egypt and Finland. Under the agreement, Finland will grant $500,000 to Egypt to be spent on technical studies and the importation of equipment for the improvement of services in the power network throughout the republic. The agreement was signed on the Egyptian side by Electricity Authority Director Eng Husayn Sirri, and Finnish Ambassador Olli Johannes Auero signed on the Finnish side. [Cairo MENA in Arabic 1540 GMT 26 Oct 81 NC]

NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH FRG -- Bonn, 26 Oct (MENA) -- A nuclear cooperation agreement for peaceful purposes was signed today between Egypt and the Federal Republic of Germany for building two nuclear stations for producing nuclear power in Egypt within Egypt's programme for energy till the year 2000. The programme also includes setting up eight stations with a 1,000 megawatt capacity and five billion marks total cost. The agreement was signed by Egyptian Minister of Electricity Muhammad Mahir Abaza and the German minister of scientific research and technology. [Text] [Cairo MENA in English 1215 GMT 26 Oct 81 NC]

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE NO 503

JN261718 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Oct (INA) -- The Iraqi Naval Force yesterday evening attacked an Iranian naval convoy in Khowr Musa in the north of the Arab Gulf and destroyed two ships after setting fire to them.

Communique No 503 issued this evening by the Armed Forces General Command also said that Iraqi fighter planes this morning shot down two Iranian Phantom fighter planes to the west of Bandar-e Shahpur in the waters of the Arab Gulf.

The communique put the total known enemy losses during the past 24 hours at 72 killed and 12 vehicles, 6 guns, 9 stockpiles of hardware, 1 personnel carrier and 1 observation post destroyed in addition to the ships and the 2 fighter planes.

The military communique put the total of our losses at seven martyrs for all the sectors and three vehicles, one gun, one mortar and one armored vehicle.

Following is text of Communique No 503 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With great effectiveness, our valiant armed forces pounded the racist Persian enemy forces in the operational sectors. The results of last night and today's fighting were as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. An enemy concentration was sighted in the Nowsud area and was pounded by our forward units forcing it to retreat, leaving behind 27 killed and 1 observation post destroyed.

B. Our forward units used their various weapons to pound enemy positions and concentrations in the Abadan area, killing 11 and destroying 4 vehicles, 5 guns and 4 stockpiles of hardware.

C. Ten were killed and one personnel carrier destroyed in Shush area.

D. Nine were killed and three vehicles and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.

E. Six were killed and four vehicles, one loaded with ammunition, one gun, and four stockpiles of hardware destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.

F. Five were killed in the Ahvaz area.

G. Three were killed in the Dezful area.

H. One was killed in the Sumar area.

I. One vehicle was destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.

J. Our naval forces yesterday evening attacked an enemy naval convoy in Khowr Musa in the north of the Arab Gulf and destroyed two ships that were seen burning.

K. This morning, our fighter planes attacked two Phantom enemy planes and clashed with them in a dog fight. The two enemy planes were downed to the west of Bandar-e Shahpur in the Arab Gulf waters. Our planes returned safely to base.

L. Our planes today attacked enemy positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the theater of operations, scoring direct and painful hits. Our planes returned safely to base.

Thus, total enemy losses amount to 72 killed and 1 personnel carrier, 12 vehicles, 6 guns, 9 stockpiles of hardware, 1 observation post, 2 ships and 2 Phantom fighter planes destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Seven martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Three vehicles, one gun, one mortar and one armored vehicle were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 October 1981

AL-QADISIYAH on 25 Oct Events

JN271159 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Oct (INA) -- Citing its correspondent in the southern sector of the theater of operations, the newspaper AL-QADISIYAH said the flames of the burning Iranian ships following Iraq's naval attack yesterday were clearly seen from Iraqi territory. The correspondent said the attack was launched at 2300 last Sunday when information reached Iraqi forces that a large enemy naval convoy was proceeding from Bandar-e Shahpur on the northeastern side of the Arab Gulf toward Khowr-e Musa on its way to the middle of the Gulf. The Iraqi forces made the decision to attack the convoy and a naval battle ensued, resulting in the destruction of two large enemy ships. The other ships fled.

The correspondent from AL-QADISIYAH, a military affairs newspaper issued by the Political Guidance Department at the Defense Ministry, said in his report that the flames coming from the two ships were seen from the ports of Al-Bakr and Al-'Amiq. The report added that two Iranian Phantom planes were shot down after a brief battle with Iraqi planes at dawn yesterday, Monday, in the northern part of the Arab Gulf. The two planes appeared to be protecting Bandar-e Shahpur, now named Bandar Khomeyni, which was exposed to a violent Iraqi air attack last week. Iraqi planes assigned to protect Iraqi airspace and waters sighted the Iranian planes and an order was given to air force units in the southern sector to engage the planes and destroy them. A few minutes later, the Iraqi planes were confronted by two enemy planes and a brief battle ensued, resulting in the destruction of the two planes which were seen falling into the sea about 8 km south of Bandar-e Shahpur. The Iraqi planes returned safely.

OFFICIAL ON ARAB SUMMIT, EGYPT'S ORIENTATION

JN211024 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 21 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 21 Oct (INA) -- A senior Iraqi official has said Iraq will support any effort to bring Egypt back to the Arab fold in accordance with the Baghdad summit resolutions and in opposition to the Camp David approach.

In a statement published in the weekly ALIF BA' today, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin said an inclination to bring back Egypt along the aforementioned bases "will get the care and attention of Iraq and all the Arab countries."

Al-Yasin told the magazine that Iraq has approved the agenda of the 12th Arab summit that will meet on 25 November in the Moroccan city of Fes. He said that the Arab foreign ministers will hold preparatory meetings on 22 and 23 November to examine and approve the agenda.

The Iraqi official expressed the hope that the Fes summit conference would produce good results. Iraq, he said, will definitely do its best to see that the conference produces positive results as regards those matters which it considers important, such as the amendment of the Arab League Charter, in order to develop joint Arab action and achieve more positive results from the Arab-European dialogue.

Al-Yasin said Iraq believes that the current situation in the Arab world and the European community could lead to reactivating the Arab-European dialogue and producing results in the interests of the Palestine question and the concerned Arab and European parties.

Al-Yasin stressed that Iraq will also work to achieve better results and targets in Arab-African cooperation. We also stressed that Iraq will seek resolutions at the summit on adhering to the nonaligned policy, keeping the region outside the world power struggle and foiling attempts by any side to drag the Arab community into international alliances and conflicts in which the Arab homeland will always be the loser.

ATH-THAWRAH AGAINST RAPPROCHEMENT FOR EGYPT

JN251431 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 25 Oct 81

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Oct (INA) -- In an article published here today, the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH strongly condemns the calls to restore Arab solidarity with the Egyptian regime, saying that the regime must first dissociate itself completely from the Camp David accords and their concomitants. The grave danger of such calls, the paper says, lies in the attempt to play up Egypt's return to the Arab fold without referring to the consequences of its previous behavior. Such an approach, the paper adds, would enable Husni Mubarak's regime to avoid Arab punishment and at the same time continue the normalization process.

The paper stresses that there cannot be any real solidarity with Egypt as long as its regime is still under the Camp David umbrella and in the clutches of the Washington and Tel Aviv administrations.

ATH-THAWRAH, which is the organ of the Arab socialist Arab Ba'th Party, says that the Baghdad summit resolutions are still the criterion for pan-Arab action. Those resolutions, the paper says, demand that the Egyptian regime must first dissociate itself from the Camp David accords and their concomitants before Egypt can return to the Arab fold and before the Arabs can take any action to cancel the resolutions on the boycott and punishment of Egypt. Those resolutions were adopted to prevent the Egyptian regime's pan-Arab treason from spreading, the paper says. The paper continues: Those calling for Egypt's return to the Arab fold are overlooking the very substance of the dispute with the Egyptian regime. They want this regime to turn into a time bomb in the Arab sphere instead of remaining where it is outside the Arab body. Those behind such call, the paper warns, want the Arab countries to make political concessions which would reduce the opposition to the Camp David accords and encourage flexibility toward Husni Mubarak under the pretext that Egypt is currently going through a sensitive situation. ATH-THAWRAH adds: Action to rectify Egypt's current situation must be initiated by the Egyptian regime itself, not the Arabs. After all, it was the Egyptian regime which betrayed the people and nation, fell in the lap of imperialism and Zionism, gave the keys to Egypt to the Arabs' enemies, undermined the achievements of the 23 July Revolution and deviated from the pan-Arab will and Arab line.

The paper continues: Regimes and leaders are not judged by their intentions or what they might do in the future, but by their policies, actions and statements. So far, the behavior of Husni Mubarak and his regime on the domestic, regional, pan-Arab and international levels have confirmed that he continues to pursue the As-Sadat line, perhaps even more dangerously and cunningly. Husni Mubarak's regime is harsher in suppressing and persecuting people, more determined to continue the pro-U.S. policy, more severe in punishing patriotic and pan-Arab currents in Egypt, as clearly shown by the enforcement of the state of emergency, the arrests, the prosecutions and the assurances about further developing ties with the United States and the Zionist entity.

ATH-THAWRAH asserts that those making the calls are, in fact, carrying out suspicious contacts to turn over a new leaf with the Egyptian's regime despite its continued betrayal of the national and pan-Arab causes.

INDUSTRY MINISTER CONFERS WITH USSR'S MORDVINOV

JN262130 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] Tahir Tawfiq, Revolution Command Council member and minister of industry and minerals, today received Vladimir Mordvinov, deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and his delegation. During the visit, which was attended by the Soviet ambassador in Baghdad, the two sides discussed the economic and technical cooperation between the two countries and means of developing these relations.

MINISTER RECEIVES HUNGARIAN TRADE OFFICIAL

JN261406 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Oct (INA) -- Sa'dun Ghaydan, member of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and minister of transport and communications, met here today with Otto Herkner, Deputy Minister of the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Trade [title as received].

The scope of relations between the two friendly states and ways of bolstering these relations, particularly in the transportation and communications fields, were discussed. Sa'dun Ghaydan affirmed Iraq's readiness to expand cooperation with Hungary in the fields of transportation and communications. Otto Herkner also expressed his government's desire to increase the contribution of specialized Hungarian institutions in implementing new projects for transportation and communications in Iraq.

RAMADAN RECEIVES INDIAN PETROLEUM MINISTER

JN211357 Baghdad INA in English 1340 GMT 21 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Baghdad 21 Oct (INA) -- Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Mr Taha Yasin Ramadan met here today the visiting Indian Petroleum Minister Mr P.C. Sethi.

Mr Ramadan, a member of Iraq's highest executive body, the Revolution Command Council [RCC], warmly welcomed the Indian guest and his accompanying delegation and underlined the significance of the two countries' Joint Commission for Economic and Technical Cooperation, which earlier in the day, held a meeting in the course of its current session.

The first deputy prime minister said the work of the commission will further improve economic cooperation and increase the volume of trade exchange between the two friendly countries.

Ministers Sign Joint Minutes

JN221939 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 22 Oct (INA) -- Iraq and India today signed the joint minutes for development of economic, trade, technical and cultural cooperation between the two friendly countries at the end of the Iraqi-Indian Joint Commissions's meetings. Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, Revolution Command Council member and oil minister, signed the minutes for Iraq, and Mr P.C. Sethi, Indian petroleum minister, signed the minutes for India.

Tayih 'Abd al-Karim expressed his pleasure at the steps taken by the Iraqi-Indian Joint Commission in strengthening the ties of friendship between Iraq and India in the service of their friendly peoples. He said: We are confident that good relations between the two countries will develop and forge ahead in a direction that will allow them to draw up their development plans.

KING HOLDS TALKS WITH PRINCE FAHD IN LONDON

JN280626 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 28 Oct 81

[Text] London -- His Majesty King Husayn last night received at his residence in London Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. They discussed various pan-Arab topics, especially those related to defending Arab rights to Palestine and the Palestinian people's right to establish an independent state on their land under the leadership of the PLO.

The discussions also dealt with the appropriate means to pool Arab resources and strengthen Arab solidarity. Issues of mutual concern were also discussed.

The meeting was attended by the delegation accompanying the Saudi crown prince: Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Finance Minister Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl and Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani. The meeting was also attended by the Saudi and Jordanian ambassadors in London.

DAILIES COMMENT ON KING'S UK, U.S. VISITS

AR-RA'Y Editorial

JN280817 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 28 Oct 81 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "Dialogue for Sake of Justice, Peace and Stability"]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn began a visit to the United Kingdom yesterday during which he will meet with senior British officials. While in London, the king will also meet with Saudi Crown Prince Fahd. After Britain, his majesty will visit the United States, where he is scheduled to meet with President Reagan, senior officials in the U.S. Administration and leading congressmen.

The tour, therefore, is most significant in view of the very sensitive period through which our case is passing and the fact that it could open new vistas for Arab-European and Arab-U.S. dialogue and strengthen mutual understanding in the Arab world.

Needless to say, Jordan has always been, and still is, a believer in constructive dialogue, which depends on facts, upholds justice and seeks peace and stability in the region. It has often called on those who love justice, peace and stability to play their role in achieving this noble objective for the well-being of our region and the whole world.

Therefore, the United States, Britain and the rest of the European community have an important role to play in achieving a just and comprehensive settlement of the issue, and, consequently, removing the main hotbed of tension in the region represented by Israel's occupation of Arab territory and disavowal of the Palestinian people's right to determine its destiny on its usurped land. Undoubtedly, such a role would be very influential and productive if it is based on justice and correct understanding of the dangers represented by Israel's endless ambitions and defiant stands, the latest of which was Shamir's statement yesterday that Israel would not change its attitude toward the PLO even if the organization recognized it.

Jordan is fully aware of Israel's destructive role in undermining Arab-U.S. relations. It is also aware of the gravity of the Israeli lying to the Western world to make it believe that Israel is the protector of its interests and its defender in the Arab world. That role and that lie are part and parcel of Israel's evil partices directed solely at building barriers of hatred to forestall any mutual understanding between the Arabs on the one hand and the European Community and the United States on the other and to prevent any dialogue which could lead to such mutual understanding.

Jordan and all the Arabs have already announced on many occasions that the legitimate interests of any country in our region are protected. What protects them is mutual respect and confidence between the owners of those interests and the Arabs. Jordan and the Arabs have also succeeded in breaking through Israel's evil barriers - hence the Arab-European and Arab-U.S. dialogues which have covered large ground and for which new important vistas will be opened following King Husayn's talks in London and Washington.

Jordan's commitment to the pan-Arab line is a principled stand which depends on justice and the firm desire to achieve an honorable solution which will form the main basis for peace and stability in the region. Undoubtedly, British and U.S. officials are aware of this desire. Therefore, we are very hopeful that the dialogue will produce constructive European and U.S. stands based on justice and that both Europe and the United States will play their role in achieving a just and comprehensive solution to the question and enabling the Palestinian people to determine their own destiny on their usurped land so the region will stabilize, prosper and become a source of well-being for the whole world.

AD-DUSTUR Editorial

JN280952 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 28 Oct 81 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "Jordanian Role Represents Arab Stand]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn's visit to Britain yesterday and his visit to the United States next week are most significant in view of Jordan's vital role in any sincere and earnest peace process and the effective role London and Washington could play to achieve a just and lasting peace in this disturbed and unstable region.

In his talks with British and U.S. officials, King Husayn will express the unified Arab stand reached during his recent tour of Iraq and the Gulf states which he will complete by a meeting and exchanging viewpoints with Saudi Crown Prince Fahd in London.

No doubt, the king, who will speak on behalf of the Arabs, will acquaint the coming Arab summit with the results of his talks in Britain, which represents the European community, and in the United States, which can put pressure on Israel to force it to respond to the wish of the international community and reach a comprehensive solution to what President Reagan termed yesterday the most important challenge to peace in the Middle East.

As pointed out by the new Jordanian ambassador when presenting his credentials to President Reagan in Washington, Jordan is determined to work for a just and lasting peace on the basis of the principles and values in which all countries believe, the principles of right and justice and the people's right to self-determination.

As long as President Reagan believes that Jordan has an important role to play in the achievement of peace in the region, it is up to the U.S. Administration to harmonize with this role, because it is a clear role which seeks the best means to achieve a comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli dispute based on guaranteeing the rights of all peoples in the region to live in peace, especially the Palestinian people who have suffered from destitution and Zionist terrorism for many years.

It is natural, therefore, that King Husayn's talks with British and U.S. officials will concentrate on the need for all parties concerned, especially the United States in its capacity as a world power, to take the necessary practical steps to achieve a just and comprehensive solution.

We are hopeful that the visit will result in a change in the U.S. position enabling the Reagan Administration to pursue an evenhanded policy in the Arab-Israeli dispute and to act earnestly and effectively toward achieving a just settlement.

At the same time, we are very hopeful and confident that at their coming summit, the Arab leaders will adopt a unified and firm Arab stand to cope with all developments and eventualities and confront all challenges and dangers to guarantee Arab rights and liberate the occupied territory from the Zionist invaders.

GOVERNMENT VOICES 'CONCERN' TO UK ON SINAI FORCE

NC271252 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] At the request of the Arab League, the Foreign Ministry today began diplomatic activity concerning the European states' intention to participate in the Sinai multinational force. Within this framework, British Ambassador to Lebanon David Roberts was summoned to the Foreign Ministry today where he met with the Ministry's acting secretary general, John Riyashi, who informed him of Lebanon's concern over Britain's intention to participate in the Sinai multinational force.

The British ambassador informed the Foreign Ministry's acting secretary general that his government has not yet made a final decision regarding this matter and that in the event such a decision is made, it will inform the Lebanese Government of the reasons for such a decision.

The Foreign Ministry is expected to summon for the same purpose tomorrow the French charge d'affaires and the Italian ambassador.

SARKIS CHAIRS ARAB FOLLOWUP COMMITTEE MEETING

NC271726 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Excerpt] At 1440 today President Ilyas Sarkis chaired a meeting of the Arab followup committee which was attended by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus, Saudi Ambassador Gen 'Ali ash-Sha'ir, Kuwaiti Ambassador 'Abd al-Hamid al-Bu'ayjan, Syrian representative Col Muhammad Ghanim, and Arab League representative Mahmud al-Ma'muri.

Al-Wazzan on Meeting

NC271917 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has stated that today's meeting of the Arab followup committee under President Ilyas Sarkis was useful. He affirmed that the committee will continue its contacts and said: We will continue our work until the next meeting of the followup committee on the foreign ministers' level. He added: We will prepare for the ministers any positive and useful measures that we can adopt and that hopefully will bring about the hoped-for results.

BEIRUT CLAIMS ISRAEL SNATCHING LAND IN SOUTH

NC260723 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] It appears that the Israeli forces have revived their policy of snatching Lebanese land. Informed sources in Beirut, citing travelers from the eastern sector of the south, say that a few days ago the Israeli Army put up barbed wire around vast areas of (Mazra'at al-Maysat) and (Nab' al-Wazzan) in the Marj 'Uyun district, covering a total area 6 km long by 5 km wide opposite the Israeli border.

The sources add that the Israelis have asphalted agricultural roads and the routes thay had opened over the past few months for water pipes linked to the border gates of Bint Jubayl and Tyre in the western sector and turned some roads into military roads as in the case of the road extending from Mazra'at al-Buwayda to (An-Nawawis) on the east bank of Al-Litani River in the Marj 'Uyun district. According to the same sources, the inhabitants are worried that these roads and annexations carry signs of permanence. The sources finally say that the border inhabitants traveling to Beirut have called for the revival of the truce commission and for steps by UN observers to initiate international measures to deal with the reality of the situation before it is too late.

TISHRIN WARNS EUROPE ON SINAI FORCE ROLE

JN271052 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Syrian Warning to Europe," TISHRIN says: Three EEC ministerial council chairmen have visited the Middle East as envoys since the June 1980 Venice conference -- Gaston Thorne, Van der Klaauw and Lord Carrington. In stating the strongest position of professed European independence, all three men admitted they could not ignore the U.S. role in the Middle East. In their public position, however, they stated both firmly and frankly that Europeans cannot but be natural allies of the United States.

Since they failed in carrying out their repeated claims about adopting stands independent of the United States by launching an initiative or playing a fundamental role in attempts to solve the so-called Middle East crisis, the Europeans are making up for that failure by agreeing to be a party to, or rather a U.S. instrument for, the implementation of the Camp David accords, even if it means defying or undermining the prestige of the United Nations, which has refused to send its forces to Sinai and thus give legality and blessing to those accords.

Some European countries that declared their intention to contribute to the multinational force are not satisfied with assisting the United States in its attempt to entrench the Camp David accords and slighting the position of the world organization. They also reveal their old colonial faces and plans to revive gunboat diplomacy to achieve colonial ambitions just as in the past.

The multinational force, to which the United States will contribute almost half the personnel, is actually a multitask force and not the peacekeeping force stipulated in the agreement of As-Sadat's capitulation to Israel. This force will be an indivisible part of the Rapid Deployment Force. Its tasks will be no different from those assigned the 6th Fleet or the other U.S. forces deployed in Ra's Banas, Mombasa, Masira, Diego Garcia and other bases.

The participation of some European states in the multinational force is a reaffirmation of the European states' shift from the position of mediator to that of a biased party, and from professed independence to blatant exposure of their subservience to and hostile alliance with the United States.

Therefore, we understand the step taken by our Foreign Ministry yesterday when it summoned the EEC ambassadors, informed them of Syria's position and asked them to tell their governments that Syria considers the participation of any state in the Sinai multinational force participation in the Camp David accords. Syria considers such conduct harmful to the Arab cause and definitely affecting that state's relationship with the Arab states which have rejected and condemned those accords.

ATH-THAWRAH DENOUNCES EEC ON MULTINATIONAL FORCE

JN280831 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 28 Oct 81

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Why This European Involvement?" ATH-THAWRAH says: The decision yesterday by the EEC ministerial council announcing the participation of some European countries in the formation of the multinational force in the Sinai constitutes a negative development in the European stand on the Middle East crisis. It also constitutes a shift from Europe's independent stand and the beginning of Europe's participation in the U.S.-Israeli umbrella over the Arab region.

ATH-THAWRAH asserts that this decision is serious, for it means replacing Israeli occupation by U.S. occupation. In other words, West Europe will be approving this occupation and providing it with the necessary political and legitimate cover.

There is no other way to interpret the case. The European countries, which enjoy historical ties with the Arab homeland and which have huge political and economic interests in the Arab area, will contravene all these considerations by becoming involved in the U.S. multinational occupation force in the Sinai. In adopting this grave stand, Europe will be in direct enmity to the Arab nation. Therefore, all Arab countries have the right to deal with West Europe from this perspective, one that could threaten European interests in the area. Will the Europeans accept this situation? And will the Western nations approve the participation of their forces in entrenching Israeli occupation at a time when these nations are forcibly combating the U.S. arms policy in Europe?

The answer is crystal clear. This European involvement means simply the European countries' recognition of the Camp David accords and the unilateral peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. It also constitutes direct interference in the Arab nation's rights to its land and sovereignty and de facto participation in assisting the United States to extricate itself from its difficult predicament.

In conclusion, ATH-THAWRAH asks: Is it not strange for the European countries to talk about the necessary establishment of a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East and to declare to the world that they are determined to propose an independent initiative for realizing this peace and at the same time they embark upon playing an actual role in the multinational force to save Camp David from imminent collapse?

The Syrian Foreign Ministry has warned the Europeans against participation in these purely U.S. processes, adding that this stand would erase the independence of the European role as it would complement the U.S. stand. This warning will have its own repercussions on the current situation in the area and on future Arab-European relations. Syria wants the Western countries to honor their previous commitments and to play a positive role in solving the crisis in the area compatible with their vital interests in the Arab region.

KHADDAM HOLDS TALKS WITH IRANIAN OFFICIAL

JN251845 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1825 GMT 25 Oct 81

[Text] Damascus, 25 Oct (SANA) -- 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, received here this evening Hoseyn Sheykholeslam, under secretary of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and his delegation. Nasir Qaddur, assistant foreign minister, and the Iranian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

Discussions dealt with bilateral relations and current international issues.

The Iranian under secretary and his delegation arrived in Damascus earlier today and were received at Damascus International Airport by Nasir Qaddur.

Further on Talks

LD261250 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Oct 81

[Excerpts] According to a central news unit report, Sheykholeslam, Foreign Ministry political under secretary, arrived in Damascus yesterday at the head of a delegation. On arrival in Damascus, the Iranian envoy and his delegation were greeted warmly. They met and conferred with the Syrian foreign minister and conveyed to him the Iranian people's gratitude for Syrian resistance against the occupying regime of Jerusalem and the U.S. plots.

At the meeting they discussed Prince Fahd's seven-point [as heard] proposal. The Foreign Ministry political under secretary branded Fahd's proposal as the continuation of the Camp David accord.

ITIM REPORTS 10 TERRORIST PENETRATION ATTEMPTS

TA271950 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1910 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Metulla, 27 Oct -- The militia spokesman reported today that, contrary to UNIFIL reports, there have been 10 terrorist penetration attempts into southern Lebanon over the past 4 days and not merely 4 as stated by UNIFIL.

The spokesman noted that UNIFIL reported only on clashes between its people and terrorists but did not report on penetrations and attempted penetrations in which UNIFIL soldiers were not involved.

The militia spokesmen claim the mines discovered in the western sector in southern Lebanon point to additional penetration attempts by the terrorists.

Military elements in north Israel denied today claims aired in Lebanon to the effect that Israel was annexing areas in southern Lebanon near the village of (Raghar), which is located on the Israeli-Lebanese border.

NORMALIZATION ACCORDS SIGNED; MEDIA INFORMED

TA271212 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Israel and Egypt have signed normalization agreements in Tel Aviv. Signing for Israel was Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, while Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali signed for Egypt. Our Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne'a reports the agreements were signed after Israeli and Egyptian teams had worked out a final wording this morning. In about 90 minutes, Sharon and 'Ali will hold a news conference at Ben-Gurion Airport, after which the Egyptian team will return to Cairo. Kol Yisra'el will broadcast the news conference live on network B.

'Ali, Sharon News Conference

TA271514 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1352 GMT 27 Oct 81

[News conference by Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali at Ben-Gurion Airport -- live]

[Excerpts] I would like to emphasize the achievement of the visit, the first achievement is by the fact that Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and minister for foreign affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, who is one of the main people behind the peace process, managed in these days to come to Israel in order to deepen the relations and the peace between our two nations. General 'Ali's visit to Jerusalem, his meetings with the President of Israel, with the prime minister, with the minister of foreign affairs, the minister of the interior, all these are signs that we are going to proceed with the peace agreement as has been decided; it is going to be deepened and we can see the future and the progress in the future of this process as it has been agreed by Prime Minister Begin and President Husni Mubarak of Egypt.

We decided about opening, on a mutual basis, tourism between Israel and the southern part of Sinai and by having, giving all the possible conveniences in order to make it easier, simpler for the inhabitants of Egypt and Israel to visit both countries. We decided about our diplomatic activities by opening an Egyptian consulate in Elat and an Israeli consulate in (Ras Nastrani), or, as we called it in Hebrew, Ofira.

As I said before, visas or entry permits will be granted on the spot in the easiest way in order to promote normalization between our countries. We have arranged many other things which you can find in the paper that you were given. I would like to emphasize the most fruitful cooperation and the friendly relations which were shown by Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali and his colleagues to me and to my colleagues and that no doubt helped to promote the relations between the two countries and nations that decided to live in peace forever. I wanted to emphasize the importance of the cooperation in Israel between the different ministries and mostly between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the minister himself, Mr Shamir and myself, dealing with all those complicated problems and no doubt that this cooperation helped to solve all those problems that we face or might face in the future.

I am sure that this visit is only another milestone on our long way to comprehensive peace and everlasting peace in this part of the world, which will no doubt affect and influence the situation and the desire of peace in the rest of the world. Thank you very much for coming.

[Correspondent Aharon Barne'a -- in Hebrew] Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali:

['Ali -- in English] I'll give some words in Arabic for our people and try and translate it to English.

[Barne'a -- speaking in Hebrew over 'Ali's English] While the Egyptian foreign minister is saying what he has to say in English, I will in the meantime try to translate what he has just said in Arabic. General 'Ali said that he was happy that at the end of this visit he could thank his friend Minister Sharon and the Government of Israel for the pleasant reception on this visit. This has been a most helpful visit for several reasons, Minister 'Ali said: One, since the visit came amid the serious events that occurred in Egypt recently, this visit is proof of the two countries' desire to realize normalization, to implement the peace treaty with all clauses in accordance with the predetermined timetable, even before the serious events that recently occured in Egypt.

This meeting, of the Supreme [Israeli-Egyptian] Committee, came at the very same time as the meeting by the teams of experts in the negotiations for full autonomy for the Palestinians, as the implementation of the second part of the Camp David agreements and in order to fulfill the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and reach a comprehensive and just peace settlement in the area. There is no doubt, 'Ali said, that what has been agreed upon by the Supreme Committee, of which he is the Egyptian chairman and Minister Sharon is the Israeli chairman, has given the normalization a great push forward in such a way that this committee's work, together with that of the other autonomy committees, has, in fact, turned normalization between the two countries to a natural set of relations between two nations.

The minister said that the deliberations held over the last 2 days represent a model for the future and, concluding his Arabic remarks, he said that, once again, he wanted to thank the Government of Israel for its firm decision to continue with the peace process; to President Navon, to Prime Minister Begin, to Foreign Minister Shamir and Minister Yosef Burg.

['Ali -- in English] My presence with my colleagues here means many things. It was fulfilled according to the timetable which was agreed upon in Alexandria last August, when Premier Begin paid the visit to late President as-Sadat and, again, it comes during the session which is held now by the working teams, the Israeli American and the Egyptian delegations, working here, for autonomy and to achieve the goals of autonomy as mentioned in Camp David.

We all consider the Palestinian problem mentioned in Camp David as one of the cornerstones of the peace process as a whole -- in the whole area. My meetings here showed both our willingness to achieve the goals of these negotiations and for this may I add something which was not mentioned by Minister Sharon, that a ministerial -- a limited ministerial level -- will be held in Cairo to discuss the elements of the full autonomy for the Palestinians of West Bank and Gaza in Cairo on 4 November.

[Barne'a -- in Hebrew spoken over 'Ali's remarks] Here Minister 'Ali discusses the matter of the ministerial meeting in Cairo in November on the autonomy negotiations. He again thanks Minister Sharon. By the way, each time he mentions the word autonomy, Minister 'Ali, with great precision, phrases it: full autonomy for the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza. I am quoting. I hope to meet you soon in Cairo, Minister 'Ali said, and he shakes Sharon's hand and now it is time for the question.

The first question is from the IDF radio, a question about autonomy. The question is, how do the sides evaluate the role of the United States.

['Ali -- in English] Actually, before coming to a full agreement about that, Prime Minister Begin was trying to make the suitable and necessary contacts with the American side, to decide, all of us together, about the date and the level of negotiations. Thank you.

[Sharon -- in English] I would like to emphasize that Egypt and Israel are two sovereign countries and no doubt that we pay very high importance to the participation of a third party, these are the Americans. No doubt there contribution during the last 3 years was a very important one, but I think it's very important to know that Egypt and Israel are two sovereign countries that can talk to each other, can discuss, can decide and, as a matter of fact, that's what we have done. So I think that, living here in this region, facing many common problems and many common dangers, I am very glad that we arrived to a position that we can meet, that we can decide about meeting and, of course, if you know, Prime Minister Begin told the Americans about that and they were invited to participated next week in the meeting.

[Question -- in English] Do you plan to present a certain theory, a certain program for the elections for the authority for the Palestinians, for all the problems concerning the Palestinian problem in the coming session? If not, what are the new ideas which you are going to present [words indistinct]?

[Sharon -- in English] No doubt that we believe that many aspects will be discussed. I had the (?honor) to have here Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, with whom I managed to talk also about this question and no doubt it was, as you know, it was a meeting with Prime Minister Begin and I believe that we'll find a solution. [sentence as heard] If somebody thinks that it is a simple solution or a simple problem, it is not. It's a very complicated one but I believe that even when it's complicated, one may and one should find an answer.

[Question -- in English] Are you saying more or less that your country, Egypt, does not refuse on the whole totally the Saudi peace plan. What is your real position regarding the plan, the eight-point plan of Prince Fahd?

['Ali -- in English] I would like to repeat again what I mentioned before in several occasions. We have now the peace process, the Camp David accords as the only fact in our area and in our life now. Whatever are the initiatives here or there, it will have to be discussed with the parties concerned.

Many real resolutions from the United Nations have been stated and published but where is the practical thing to be done? So, the only practical thing is the Camp David. So we have to stick to it, we have to implement it before looking to any other initiative. As we know, there are some initiatives or proposals from Romania, from the Soviet Union and maybe there are others. We have to deal only with the facts and that's Camp David. That's our opinion.

[Question -- in English] Is there a very big change in the Egyptian position regarding autonomy, and, in particular, regarding the status of east Jerusalem as an Arab city. I want to ask Minister Shamir [as heard] a small question also -- Minister Sharon, a small question -- and it's regarding that there was a previous statement by the Israeli Government and assurances about free-zone settlements that Israel was [words indistinct] that this policy still holds and that the assurances still hold and are you ready to contribute to the success of the forthcoming discussions on autonomy by freezing all settlements?

[Sharon -- in English] See, we learned always that, you know, the last question, sometimes you have to cut because the last question is always the most dangerous one. [laughter] So about your question if Israel is going to contribute to the solution, no doubt that we will contribute; we have done it during the peace negotiation with Egypt, about the first part of the Camp David accord -- and no doubt that we'll help and support it when it will come -- to the second part and that is the autonomy talks.

About your specific question, I would like to emphasize that, in this part of the world, I mean in the land of Israel, and I'm not referring now to any political solution, from the River Jordan to the Mediterranean, Jews and Arabs have been living together hundreds of years and I am sure that you know that within the boundaries of Israel, the pre-1967 boundaries of Israel, at the present time live 600,000 Palestinian Arabs. I had said it many times before and I can only repreat: I don't see any line that one can draw and, believe me, I know this country well, which will be, which will enable us, I would say, to have, on one side of this line, Arab population, on the other side Jewish population. In this part of the world, Jews and Arabs will live together for ever and I can assure you that Jews and Arabs, or Arabs and Jews can live peacefully side by side. That is our policy, that is our belief and that is the way that we are trying to achieve living peacefully together, side by side.

['Ali -- in English] [words indistinct] has included two points, one of them, our position concerning Jerusalem; and, as we stated before and very strongly, the Arab Jerusalem is a part of the West Bank and Gaza and this has been stated several times and also it was mentioned by several officials from the Israeli part, that Jerusalem will be negotiable -- the Jerusalem issue will be negotiable -- so now, we have not to raise the problems before discussing the problems and, as for the settlements, maybe it is also one of the differences.

Friends can have differences and we have differences in this respect, too, the point of the settlements. So, in general, we have to discuss the problems, we have to come to an agreement on the problems and maybe these are the two most difficult problems in the whole negotiations for the full autonomy and for the comprehensive peace and I am sure, by the goodwill of both of us, that we can achieve an agreeable agreement. Maybe you learned about late President as-Sadat's proposal of the two municipalities and the high committee for Jerusalem and so on. Anyhow, I think it is now too early to discuss this in conference, a press conference, and this has to be left to the three delegations to consult about. Thank you.

[Barne'a voice-over summary of the above in Hebrew obscures another question in English and 'Ali's answer in English. The live coverage then ends]

IDF Radio Report

TA271615 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Jerusalem and the settlements are the two main problems on the way to autonomy and a comprehensive peace agreement. This was said by Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali at a news conference before he took off for Egypt.

Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, 'Ali's host in Israel, hinted that Jewish settlement in all parts of Eretz Yisra'el, would continue. Minister Sharon expressed satisfaction over the fact that Israel and Egypt could talk and reach agreements without U.S. aid.

On the issue of the settlements, too, we have differences of opinion with Israel, the Egyptian foreign minister said, but there may be differences of opinion between friends. Apparently Jerusalem and the settlements are the main issues on the way to autonomy and a comprehensive peace agreement, Kamal Hasan 'Ali concluded.

[Begin recording] ['Ali -- in English] We have now the peace process, the Camp David accord, as the only fact in our area and in our life now. Whatever are the initiatives here or there, it has to be discussed with the parties concerned. [end recording]

[Announcer translates above into Hebrew and continues] This is the only practical process. We must act in accordance with it before we turn to any other proposal and, in this context, the Saudi Arabian proposal.

Further on Conference

TA271855 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Israel and Egypt have agreed on steps to facilitate Israeli tourism in Sinai after the final withdrawal next April. This was announced at a joint news conference held by Egypt's Foreign Minister Hasan 'Ali, and Israel's Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, at Ben-Gurion Airport. Minister 'Ali flew back to Cairo this evening after 2 days of intensive talks in Israel. Both Sharon and 'Ali praised the progress made with the Egyptian minister calling it another milestone.

[Begin recording] ['Ali] We can say that our relations are normal and it is mutual relations and needless to use the term, or the terminology, of normalization, because now it is normal. We discussed many things in the tourism, aviation, roads, passes and so on in our discussions and we agreed upon certain facilities to be delivered both sides.

[Correspondent Shim'on Ayalon] Minister 'Ali was asked to clarify the Egyptian stand vis-a-vis the peace plan, the eight-point plan recently put forward by Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

['Ali] We have now the peace process, the Camp David accords, as the only fact in our area and in our life now. Whatever are the initiatives here or there, it has to be discussed with the parties concerned. Many resolutions from the United Nations have been stated and published, but where is the practical thing to be done? So, the only pratical thing is the Camp David, so we have to stick to it, we have to implement it before looking to any other initiative.

[Ayalon] When Mr 'Ali said that Israelis had hinted that Jerusalem would be negotiable, Israel's Defense Minister, Ari'el Sharon, appeared to quizzicially raise his eyebrows. Another question was just what differences are there between the current stand of Israel and that of Egypt. This point was first raised by Defense Minister Sharon.

[Sharon] Of course, there are many questions that should be solved and we have to admit there are differing views in many fields which are connected to the autonomy plan, but at the same time, no doubt that there are quite a number of subjects and important subjects that we agree, or we believe that we can agree easily about them.

[Ayalon] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said Israel and Egypt had agreed to concentrate on issues which they were empowered to deal with under the Camp David accords. The impression given was that other points would be dealt with and tackled later, after the election of the Palestinian administrative council. General 'Ali also addressd himself to this issue.

['Ali] We will never talk for the Palestinians, but it is for the Palestinians to determine, in the course -- in the implementation of -- Camp David and I think a breakthrough, I quite agree, has to be done and, hopefully, that we will be able to come to an agreement in the nearest future and we have no other way, we have to continue the negotiations till we come to an agreement. There is no other way. [end recording]

COMMUNICATIONS TIES WITH EGYPT AGREED UPON

TA271128 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 27 Oct 81

[From Midday Newsreel]

[Text] Direct postal and telex ties between Israel and Egypt will be introduced within several months. This was agreed upon following talks between a delegation of the Israeli Communications Ministry and the Egyptian Government. Communications Ministry Director-General Gid'on Lev told our correspondent that next week practical preparations will begin to form the systems, with the aim of completing them about next April.

Tzipori on Agreements

TA271736 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] A Ministry of Communications delegation to decide on the details of cooperation in postal, telephone and radio links with Egypt returned from Cairo this morning after spending a week there. After the head of the delegation, the Ministry's director general, Gid'on Lev, reported to the minister of communications about the conclusions of the talks, our correspondent, Arad Nir, talked to Minister Mordekhay Tzipori.

[Begin Tzipori recording] We regard the negotiations by the two delegations -- ours was headed by the director general -- as occurring in two states. In the first stage, which lasted almost to the day before our return, most of the answers were in the negative. Then, all of a sudden, some sort of reversal took place there. What happened was that the working level, which was apparently subject to some sort of formula dictated at one time to them, received clear directives. I assume it is possible to tie this in with Minister 'Ali's visit to Israel. Repeated directives were sent to them and, since we published that there was no progress in this, then, further on in the meetings, not only were our talks different, but we also reached a signed agreement on most of the issues that required clarification and conclusions. [end recording]

[Nir -- live] The conclusions reached by the delegation members are in the fields of direct postal and telephone ties via land. To date, telephone calls and telex communications between a subscriber in Israel and one in Egypt have been made via an exchange in a third country. A telephone line will be laid along an axis to pass from Israel via Al-'Arish to Ismailia and direct communications will be possible. Mail will also be carried by land, not only by air, as has been the case to date. It was also decided that the link will continue on the existing infrastructure from Israel to Ofira, to Nevi'ot and 'Ezyon. The communications installations in existence in Sinai will be transferred to inside Israel; however, the members of the Israeli delegation acceded to the Egyptians' request to sell some of the equipment to them. Already next week Egyptian engineers will come to Israel to work out with engineers from the Ministry of Communications the procedures of the work. When will these decisions be completed, we asked the director general of the Ministry of Communications, Gid'on Lev.

[Begin Lev recording] All these conclusions mean that from December to April they should be working and continue working and I believe they will keep to the timetable, as we set it. [end recording]

POST PUBLISHES TOURISM AGREEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

TA280839 Jerusalem POST in English 28 Oct 81 p 2

[Text] Following are the main points agreed upon yesterday between Israel and Egypt concerning tourist traffic between Israel and Sinai, and related issues.

-- In order to promote tourism between the two countries, and to their mutual benefit, it was agreed, on a mutual basis, that free movement will be granted to Egyptian and Israel buses, trucks, private vehicles, motorcycles and bicycles between Beersheba and Elat and the various centres of tourism in southern Sinai, including An-Nuwaybi', Dhahab, Sharm ash-Shaykh and St Catherine's.

-- The arrangements between Ra's Nasrani, St Catherine's, Ra's an-Naqb ('Ezyon), Elat and Ben-Gurion airports and vice-versa.

-- It was agreed that entry for tourism to the areas of Elat, Sharm ash-Shaykh, St Catherine's and points along the coast of the Gulf of Al-'Aqabah will be facilitated for the benefit of both countries, and on a mutual basis through entry permits such as transit visas or transit passes or cards valid for the areas and for limited periods of time to be granted promptly at check-point No. 4 (between Sharm ash-Shaykh and Elat) and at the airports of Ra's an-Naqb, Ra's Nasrani and St Catherine's.

-- It was agreed upon the establishment of (three other) checkpoints on the international boundary between the two countries as follows:

1. Checkpoint No 1 -- on the Al-Qantarah Rafah-Ashdod road.

2. Checkpoint No 2 -- on the Beersheba-Ismailia road.

3. Checkpoint No 3 -- on the Ra's an-Naqb-Elat road.

-- In order to facilitate tourism, as well as relations in other areas between the two countries, the delegations of Egypt and Israel have announced their intention to open consulates in Elat and Sharm ash-Shaykh respectively.

-- Without prejudice to international aviation conventions, there will be flights of airlines of Egypt and Israel from St Catherine's and/or Ra's Nasrani to Elat and/or Tel Aviv airports (as the case may be) and vice-versa.

-- Tourists arriving at Ra's an-Naqb airport en route to Elat will be accorded at the airport, upon arrival, the necessary facilities to ensure their prompt transit to Elat, such as transit visas or transit cards. Similarly, facilities will be granted to assure their prompt departure on their way back. These tourists will also be granted proper facilities at the Elat airport.

Technical details, the agreement says, will be worked out by the transportation committee and civil aviation committee, both of which will convene November 1 in Cairo.

SHARIR STATEMENT ON RETURN FROM TOURISM TALKS

TA280727 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0015 GMT 28 Oct 81

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 27 Oct -- Egyptian Tourism Minister 'Ali Kamal an-Nazir will arrive in Israel within 2 or 3 weeks to sign a comprehensive agreement on tourism which will include a minutely detailed report on the agreements signed in Jerusalem and Cairo on Tuesday. Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir stated this upon his return from talks in Egypt which lasted 7 days.

Mr Sharir said that the agreement on tourism reached in the talks conducted by Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali in Israel and by himself in Egypt is a good example of cooperation between the two countries and constitutes the second phase in the implementation of normalization which began on the diplomatic plane.

"Tourism is a central factor in getting both nations close to one another and without tourism there is no talking about peace," Minister Sharir reiterated.

The tourism minister said that at the beginning of his contacts he encountered many difficulties and rigid positions on the Egyptian side on several points vital to Israel. He called Prime Minister Menahem Begin and asked him to raise the subject in Israel during the visit of Egyptian Foreign Minister General 'Ali. Indeed, the difficulties were overcome in talks with the Egyptian foreign minister and an agreement was reached.

Mr Sharir elaborated on the highlights of the agreements: The immediate opening of tourism offices in Cairo and in Israel and encouraging tourism from foreign countries to both Egypt and Israel. It is expected that many Japanese tourists will include Israel within their tours of Egypt and Greece.

Mr Sharir further obtained a promise from the Egyptians that they would print new maps in their tourist publications since the current maps depict "Palestine" instead of Israel. The Egyptians said this mistake was caused because the maps were printed in Austria and the matter would be amended.

KNESSET TO RECONVENE 2 NOV WITH BEGIN ADDRESS

TA271215 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] The Knesset's winter session will open next Monday [2 Nov] with a political statement by Prime Minister Menahem Begin, followed by a debate. The members of the 10th Knesset will pay tribute to Moshe Dayan and Hayim Landau by rising.

ALGERIA

EL MOUJAHID WELCOMES OAU PEACE FORCE FOR CHAD

NC251157 Paris AFP in English 1138 GMT 25 Oct 81

[Text] Algiers, 25 Oct (AFP) -- New prospects for an Organisation of African Unity peace-keeping force in Chad, announced yesterday by OAU Secretary-General Edem Kodjo, were welcomed today by the Algerian Government newspaper El Moujahid.

But the paper said the force on its own was not enough to restore peace to a country which needed above all aid which would "guarantee the indispensible attributes of national sovereignty," especially an integrated national army.

EL MOUJAHID was suspicious of new United States' interest in Chad, which it attributed to the "evident" desire of Washington to "include a Chadian element in its regional strategy, especially if one considers that Chad has a frontier with Libya."

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI WARNS OF ACTION AGAINST AWACS

LD272126 Hamburg DPA in German 1819 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Hamburg, 27 Oct (DPA) -- The leader of the Libyan revolution, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, believes that the United States wants to occupy Egypt. In an interview in the Hamburg magazine STERN, published on Thursday, Al-Qadhdhafi states: "Under no circumstances will we allow American AWACS planes to photograph Libyan territory. If they do so and are within range of our missiles, we will not hesitate to use them. I do not believe it is the Egyptians who want to attack us. It is the Americans who have aggressive intentions, not only against us but against the whole region...."

Asked about his attitude toward terrorism, Al-Qadhdhafi replied: "We have always been against terrorism. We hate it. But the United States is terrorizing us.... It is threatening us militarily, politically and economically. That's terrorism, isn't it?" Al-Qadhdhafi said about Ronald Reagan's administration: I think Reagan is the most stupid and the craziest man in the world. Carter is an angel by comparison."

Al-Qadhdhafi called new Egyptian President Husni Mubarak a "very good officer", but denied he is a good politican. He said the late President as-Sadat had led Mubarak "into a trap when he made him vice president." Al-Qadhdhafi described accusations by Sudanese President Muhammad Numayri that the Libyan Air Force had bombed Sudanese border villages as "rubbish." There is "no reason" for a war with Sudan, Al-Qadhadhafi said.

MEETING OF LIBYAN, EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS DENIED

LD271530 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Tripoli, 27 Oct (JANA) -- The QATARI NEWS AGENCY and KUNA on 26 October cited a report in AL-KHALIJ, which is published in Ash-Shariqah, about an alleged meeting which took place recently in a Western capital between a Libyan official and First Deputy of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry 'Usamah al-Baz.

A source at the People's Office for Foreign Liaison told JANA today that this report is without foundation and is untrue. He also said Libya categorically rejects any such meeting with the like of 'Usamah al-Baz who has stained his name by his frequent visits to occupied Palestine and his frequent meetings with the Zionist terrorists and who has made a big contribution to the betrayal of the Arab nation. Today in all his positions he has become more Zionist than the Zionists themselves.

CPSU'S VORONIN, DELEGATION ARRIVE IN TIPOLI

LD271848 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Tripoli, 27 Oct (JANA) -- Lev Vornonin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the State Planning Committee, together with a delegation arrived in Tripoli this evening on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

In a statement to a JANA correspondent, Voronin lauded the good relations of friendship and cooperation between the Jamahiriyah and the Soviet Union. He pointed out that the visit of his delegation will also contribute to the development of friendly relations between the two friendly countries.

MAURITANIA

ECONOMIC TALKS WTIH LIBYA OPEN IN NOUAKCHOTT

LD241714 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1543 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Text] Nouakchott, 24 Oct (JANA) -- The meetings of the Arab Libyan and Mauritanian Joint Committee for Economic and Social Cooperation began in Nouakchott this morning to discuss the bolstering of bilateral cooperation in all fields between the Jamahiriyah and Mauritania. The meeting of the committee was attended by Dr 'Amr al-Maqsi, secretary of the General People's Committee for Light Industries, and Brother Mohamed El Moktar, the Mauritanian minister of mines and energy. During today's session a committee was formed to discuss and review aspects of cooperation in various fields in accordance with what was decided in previous agreements.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN RECEIVES OAU SECRETARY GENERAL

LD272102 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II received at noon today at the royal palace in Ifrane OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo, who was accompanied by Paul Fouda-Onambele, chief of the press service at the OAU Secretariat General. This meeting, which lasted for 90 minutes, was also attended by the minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, M'hamed Boucetta, and by the king's advisers Messrs Ahmed Rida Guedira and Mohamed Awwad.

Following this meeting Edem Kodjo made a statement to radio and television in which he said he had discussed with his majesty the king current African problems and the means to lessen tension in the region and to enforce the OAU resolutions. Mr Kodjo announced the possibility of a meeting of the African committee in charge of following up the Sahara problem in the near future. He said the committee should continue its work and search for all ways leading to an acceptable solution to the crisis in the northwest African region.

DELEGATE TO ARAB LEAGUE TALKS OF SAHARA TO KLIBI

LD241338 Rabat MAP in English 1205 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Tunis, 24 Oct (MAP) -- Mr Mohamed Tazi, Morocco's permanent delegate to the Arab League, was received here Friday [23 October] by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi.

In a statement to the press following the meeting, Mr Tazi indicated that the talks dealt with "the aggression against the garrison of Guelta Zemmour, perpetuated by mercenaries who came from Mauritanian territory."

He added: "I have explained to Mr Klibi that what Morocco demands is that Mauritania respect the terms of the accords concluded between the Mauritanian president and him, King Hassan II, in At-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia", underlining that "if aggressions were to be repeated from Mauritianian territory, Morocco would be obliged to resort to the right of pursuit to defend its territorial integrity and sovereignty."

Mr Tazi further stated: "We have also raised the coming Arab summit due to be held next Nov 25 in Fes." In this respect, Mr Tazi said the summit will be preceded by two conferences of foreign ministers, the first on Nov 20 and 21 devoted to examining the new Arab League Charter, and the second on Nov 22 and 23, devoted to preparing the summit and fixing the agenda.

Mr Tazi said he also evoked with Mr Klibi the situation prevailing in the Arab world, expressing hope that the summit would be held as scheduled, underlining that the agenda has so far provoked no divergence that might deviate Arab leaders from examining their major causes.

SUDAN

LIBYAN ABORTIVE ATTEMPT ON HABRE'S LIFE FOILED

JN271135 Khartoum SUNA in English 1058 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Oct (SUNA) -- A Libyan planned attempt on the life of Chadian former Defense Minister Hissein Habre was foiled last week by those assigned to carry out the plot, reports reaching here from inside the Chadian territories said today.

The reports said those entrusted to execute the assassination operation cut short in the last moments and yielded themselves and their explosion to Hissein Habre.

The assassination group who were selected from elements loyal to Chadian Foreign Minister Acyl Ahmat admitted that they had been trained in the Libyan territories to carry out a plan for blowing up the home of Hissein Habre.

The report further revealed that the would-be assassins who had been carrying explosives contained in three Rothmans cigarette packages and a perfume bottle have expressed their self-reproach and decided to join Habre forces.

The group has also disclosed more secrets on the Libyan intelligence practices. The report said it is worth recalling that the Chadians who blew up the Chadian Embassy with explosives contained in a radio transistor shaped body have admitted the involvement of the Libyan intelligence in the incident.

CHADIANS TO BE TRIED FOR EMBASSY BOMBING

NC281014 Paris AFP in English 1003 GMT 28 Oct 81

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Oct (AFP) -- Eight Chadians will appear before the Sudanese state security tribunal here tomorrow charged with involvement in a June explosion at the Chadian Embassy in which two Chadians died and five others were injured.

According to the AL-AYAM daily, the eight would be defended by two Sudanese lawyers named by the Sudanese Bar Association at the request of the prosecutor general.

The lawyers, 'Abdallah Salih and Salah Sa'id, would be paid by the government. The court will be headed by provincial judge Nadir 'Abbas.

FROLINAT ISSUES 7-POINT PEACE PLAN FOR CHAD

JN241636 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1520 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Oct (SUNA) -- The Chadian National Liberation Front (Frolinat) today gave to SUNA a 7-point plan for peace in Chad which includes the participation of all the parties concerned and all the parties under the OAU auspices.

The plan stresses that the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Libyan forces from Chad is the sole opening for attaining a serious and peaceful solution and for beginning a direct dialogue among the parties concerned with the Chadian conflict at home and abroad in order to establish a comprehensive national reconciliation.

The plan calls upon the OAU to convene an urgent conference with the participation of all parties concerned about the conflict and implement the resolutions which were adopted by the Lagos and Lome conferences on the Chadian issue. The plan calls for the formation of a national government that would hold free elections under the OAU auspices.

The statement pointed out that Frolinat believes the establishment of peace in Chad can be accomplished if the sons of Chad make a concerted effort. Frolinat also believes it is possible to attain a political solution of the issue if the OAU and the African countries shoulder their full responsibility for the stability of Chad, which also means the security and stability of the continent and saving it from the communist threat.

Here is the text of the Frolinat statement:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Frolinat: A peace plan for solving the Chadian issue politically:

"And hold fast, all together, by the rope which God (stretches out for you), and be not divided among yourselves." [Koranic verse]

At this difficult time when the world is heading toward the abyss due to the superpowers' struggle over spheres of influence in the world, and in the Middle East and Africa in particular -- a matter portending the outbreak of an imminent third world war -- the efforts of all sincere people are being focused on fending off the dangers that are menacing mankind from all directions.

Frolinat, which is an integral part of this world, sees that it is historically and ethically responsible to contribute to peace in the world, particularly in Africa and the Middle East. The blatant Libyan invasion of Chad and Libya's exploitation of the situation there and the implementation of schemes and strategies of superpowers (Soviet Union) in the area, contribute to fanning up the fires of international struggle in the area and threaten the security and independence of Chad's neighbors like Egypt and Sudan. This could result in an armed struggle which is definitely not in the interest of Africa or the world at large.

Accordingly, Frolinat believes more than ever before in the political solution of the Chadian issue because this is the ideal solution to a complicated issue.

We believe it is possible to save the African Continent from the communist Soviet threat if the African states actively move to stop this threat. We are also certain that there is every chance for a political solution to the Chadian issue. We sincerely believe a political solution is possible and obtainable if the Chadian people at home and abroad -- both the people and the leaders -- unify their ranks and open a dialogue among themselves in order to reach reconciliation, national unity and peace in Chad.

As we present a peace plan to solve the Chadian problem, we call on all the Chadian people and leaders at home and abroad to renounce their differences and unify their ranks because we are all Chadians. Let us always remember that Chad and its stability are above all differences and that Chad is not indepted to anyone while everyone is indebted to Chad. Patriotic work is not a spoil to be divided but rather a sacrifice and ultruism. Let us be unified in word and deed, based on justice and prosperity, for the sake of Chad and for the sake of Africa. Let us prove to the world that we are capable of solving our own problem. Let us present to the world the greatest example in the history of world peace.

Based on these facts, Frolinat is pleased to announce to the world the following peace plan to solve the Chadian issue in accordance with certain principles:

First: Immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Libyan occupation forces from Chad or its replacement by neutral African forces in order to keep peace in Chad.

Second: The Libyan withdrawal from Chad must be considered a basic condition for a peaceful solution.

Third: A direct dialogue among the Chadian warring factions at home and abroad should be opened under the supervision of the OAU through a third party to be appointed by the OAU and to be assigned the task of preparing for this dialogue, organizing it, submitting a report to the OAU on its progress and recommend holding a general conference for the comprehensive and speedy settlement of the crisis.

Fourth: The OAU should be called on to convene an urgent and general conference which will include all conflicting parties at one table to approve national reconciliation and unity among all the people in the north and the south of Chad to lay down the principles of the political and peaceful settlement of the crisis and to approve it through objective and constructive dialogue.

Fifth: Implementing the Lome and Lagos agreements on a solution to the Chadian issue.

Sixth: A new nationalist and patriotic goverment should be formed to prepare for fair and free elections in the country under OAU auspices so that the people of Chad can elect the government of their choice.

Seventh: The OAU, with the cooperation of some African states, will be responsible for implementing the political solution to the crisis agreed upon by the concerned parties and in such a way as to lead to stability in Chad.

This is our project for a peaceful solution to the Chadian crisis. We announce this project to the whole world in a most simple manner possible and we hope we will obtain support and backing in our efforts to realize it. Let the world know we are seeking a solution for our issue and we are not warmongers. When we fight, we fight for a cause aimed at liberation and national constriction and this is a legitimate war in accordance with the conceptions of free peoples.

This is a peace plan based on justice and Chadian patriotism and not on the bases of agentry to Libya. Therefore, Libya and Goukouni must respect this peace plan and must implement it if they are really in favor of establishing peace in Chad. If they seek peace we will seek peace and if not they will find that the Chadian people are able to defend their soil and independence. "Soon will the unjust assailants know what vissicitudes their affairs will take." [Koranic verse]

Long live the people of Chad. Long live the Chadian revolution.

Issued by order of the Frolinat Political Bureau in Khartoum on 20 October 1981.

WESTERN SAHARA

MINISTERS COMMENT ON GUELTA ZEMMUR BATTLE

LD271422 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] The SDAR Information Ministry has issued a statement which says that Saharan revolutionaries on 23 October attacked Moroccan reinforcements sent to assist the Guelta Zemmur garrison which had fallen into the hands of Saharan revolutionaries. The attack coincided with the Polisario Front's representation of Moroccan prisoners to the international press.

The statement explained that the Saharan People's Liberation Army during this 1-day battle shot down a Moroccan F-5A aircraft and captured its pilot. He was presented to the press the same day. The statement added that the Saharan revolutionaries on 22 October shot down a Puma helicopter killing all its 14 crew members. The statement said the majority of the crew were communications experts.

SADR Information Minister Mohamed Salem Ould Salek confirmed yesterday that the F-5A aircraft shot down on 23 October had participated in the fighting for the first time. This aircraft was delivered recently by the United States to Morocco along with 19 other aircraft and equiped with air-to-air radar which makes it superior to the F-5 aircraft. The information minister pointed out that it is possible to understand the claims of the Moroccan king which are aimed at preparing public opinion and mobilizing it to justify the introduction of new weapons to the battlefield. He pointed out that with the shooting down of this new aircraft, 5 planes have been shot down by Liberation Army since 13 October. It is worth mentioning that the captured Moroccan pilot had received military instruction in France and the United States. According to him this was his first mission in the Western Sahara.

Meanwhile, SADR Defense Minister 'Brahim Ghali Ould Mostefa said during a reception for the foreign press, who had visited the Guelta Zemmur region, that the aim of the Moroccan [word indistinct] campaign in which it accuses forces from outside Africa of participation was to conceal the truth represented in the defeat of the Moroccan forces. He said Hassan II was striving through this desperate attempt to justify his request for the intervention of foreign forces to back him directly in his colonialist war.

After the Saharan minister had presented to the international press the military equipment captured from the Moroccans at Guelta Zemmur and the soldiers taken prisoner during the same battle he gave more details on the battle between the Saharan and Moroccan forces and estimated that more than 14,000 soldiers had taken part. In this context he explained that these forces had engaged the Saharan revolutionaries in previous battles, especially at [name indistinct] and (Ra's al-Khanfrah). The SADR defense minister was speaking to the press during the fierce battle and the sound of artillery could be heard clearly.

The Saharan minister answered a question on the weapons which according to Morocco were used by the Polisario forces and confirmed that had they had such weapons they would have headed directly to Rabat to impose the independence of the Saharan people. He once again exposed the maneuvers of Hassan II saying he wanted to rely on his [word indistinct] defeat to escape his obligations in Nairobi and confirmed that any talk about peace in the Western Sahara ahould be preceded by direct talks between the Polisario Front and the Moroccan Government.

CONGO

COMMUNIQUE ON VISIT BY GDR PARTY DELEGATION

AB222211 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Communique issued on 22 October in Brazzaville on the visit of the German Socialist Unity Party delegation to Brazzaville from 15 to 22 October]

[Excerpts] At the invitation of the Congolese Labor party [PTC] Central Committee, a delegation of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED], headed by Comrade Konrad Naumann, SED Central Committee Politburo member, paid a friendly study visit to the People's Republic of Congo from 15 to 22 October 1981. The SED delegation was received by Comrade Denis Sassou-Nguesso, chairman of the PTC Central Committee, president of the republic, head of state and president of the Ministerial Council, to whom it delivered a friendly and fraternal message from Comrade Erich Honecker, first secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State.

The delegation also was received in audience by Comrade Jean-Pierre Tchicaya, Political Bureau and PTC Central Committee member, who is also the Political Bureau member in charge of the Departments of Ideology and of Education; [name indistinct], Political Bureau member in charge of the Department of Planning and Economy; Pierre Nze, member of the Political Bureau and officer in charge of the Department of External Relations and minister of external affairs; and Salim Bangou, member of the Central Committee and secretary general at the presidency of the PTC Central Committee.

During its stay, the SED delegation visited the Curette and Kouilou regions and also visited numerous economic and social projects in the People's Republic of the Congo. During its stay, the SED delegation also had the opportunity to hold political and economic discussions with a PTC delegation headed by Comrade Pierre Nze, Political Bureau member in charge of the External Relations Department and minister of foreign affairs. [passage indistinct]

The discussions were held in an atmosphere of deep friendship and fraternity and of revolutionary frankness. To begin with, the two parties explained their bilateral cooperation and examined ways of further strengthening it with the view to making concrete the desire expressed by the leaders of the two parties -- Comrade Denis Sassou-Nguesso and Erich Honecker -- to consolidate these relations to the mutual benefit of their respective peoples.

The SED delegation was informed of the intense activities of the PTC since its third extraordinary congress to implement the new development strategy aimed at delivering the Congo from dependence and from foreign domination.

The PTC delegation also was informed of the GDR's political and economic successes in constructing an advanced socialist society in conformity with the decisions of the 10th SED Congress as well as in line with its international strategy for achieving international detente.

Taking a closer look at the relations between the two parties, the two delegations noted with satisfaction the quality of relations existing between the SED and the PTC and decided to further strengthen them with a view to consolidating the active friendship and solidarity between the people of the GDR and the People's Republic of the Congo. The two delegations also agreed on the necessity of strengthening the bonds of friendship, solidarity and cooperation between the two parties and agreed to coordinate the activities of their masses, their two states and their governments.

Touching on international issues, the two delegations expressed their preoccupation with the international situation which has been worsened by the manuevers of the imperialists and the unlawful encroachment on the liberties of peoples and on their right to dignity and progress. They called for peace and security in the world. They expressed their firm support for the actions of progressive forces all over the world for peace, disarmament and international detente.

The two parties reaffirm their active solidarity against anticommunism and subversive and imperialist activities aimed at destabilizing the progressive regimes in Africa and in the world. On Namibia, the two parties condemn the illegal occupation of this territory as well as the dilatory maneuvers by South Africa and its imperialist allies, and finally opted for the implementation of UN resolution 435 on Namibia and reiterated their unflinching support for SWAPO, the only legitimate and authentic representative of the people of Namibia. The two parties strongly condemned racist South Africa's aggression against the people of the People's Republic of Angola.

Examining the situation in the Middle East, the two sides renewed their firm condemnation of the Camp David accords and once again reaffirmed their total support for the PLO and the right of the Palestinian people to an independent and sovereign state.

Examining the situation in South America, the two parties underscored the victory of the people of Nicaragua under the leadership of the Sandinist Front. On Southeast Asia, the two parties expressed their satisfaction with the continued success of the people of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos against the imperialist interferences -- success characterized by the increasing number of countries which recognize the legitimacy of their revolutionary authority.

The two parties once again reaffirm their firm and militant solidarity with the people of Afghanistan in their struggle against the interference of the imperialists and their allies to safeguard their national sovereignty and for the establishment of progressive society.

Examining developmental issues, the two delegations stressed the necessity of restructuring the world's economy on just and democratic bases [words indistinct].

The two delegations expressed their total satisfaction with the quality of their discussions as well as the spirit of friendship, frankness and mutual understanding that prevailed during the discussions.

The SED Central Committee delegation expressed its profound gratitude to the people of the Congo, their vanguard party -- the PTC -- and to their president, Comrade Denis Sassou-Nguesso, for the fraternal, warm and militant welcome accorded them during their stay in the People's Republic of the Congo.

Signed for the PTC Central Committee by Pierre Nze, member of the PTC Political Bureau, officer in charge of external relations and minister of foreign affairs.

Signed for the SED Central Committee by Konrad Naumann, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo.

GABON

PRESIDENT BONGO SAYS UN ROLE NECESSARY IN CHAD

AB261105 Paris AFP in French 0721 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] Libreville, 26 Oct (AFP) -- Gabonese President Omar Bongo stated in Libreville on Sunday that Chad has no choice other than to call on the UN forces because an inter-African force cannot be set up in conformity with the OAU resolution in Nairobi. African countries could then send humanitarian aid of any kind which will enable Chad to solve its problems.

BENIN

LIBYAN DELEGATION HEAD DISCUSSES COOPERATION

AB280655 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 7 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Libyan Liaison Secretary al-Mabruk al-Qa'ud, who heads his country's delegation at the meeting of the Libyan-Beninese joint commission, was received in audience this morning at the state house by President Mathieu Kerekou. The Libyan minister, who was received shortly before the meeting this morning, discussed what he expects from the meeting:

[Begin recording] We have just met President Kerekou to receive his instructions and to examine how to improve bilateral cooperation and we are all happy with the level of cooperation between our two countries and the progress achieved.

[Question] Do you think that the holding of this session will open new avenues for cooperation between our two countries?

[Answer] We have come to the People's Republic of Benin to convey greetings from Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to the Beninese people and their president, Mathieu Kerekou. Of course, we also have come to give new impetus to the cooperation between our two countries and to improve the joint ventures set up within the framework of cooperation. We also will take the opportunity to assess how much progress has been made in our cooperation which is the symbol of friendship between our two peoples, facing imperialism and colonial domination. This will set an example of fruitful cooperation between two Third World countries which have mastered all problems related to cooperation. [end recording]

GHANA

PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM INDIA, SWITZERLAND

AB221849 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Text] The president, Dr Limann, returned to Accra a short while ago after visits to Switzerland and India. He immediately spoke to journalists at the airport. The president described his visits as successful, saying that he and his entourage were well received everywhere they went.

Dr Limann said he had cordial and frank discussions with Indian leaders. He said Ghana can learn much from India, where simple equipment in the agricultural and industrial fields are produced. He announced that India wants to take part in the Bui hydro-electric project. What, however, interested him and his party in India was in the field of agriculture in which India has been able to achieve a great deal. He also announced that the management of Tata are to help Ghana in the making of spare-parts as after-sale service of their buses to this country.

He said, in Switzerland he met government leaders, businessmen and church leaders. His visit there was to show Ghana's appreciation of Switzerland's involvement in the country's development.

The president was welcomed by the vice president, Dr deGraft Johnson, ministers, members of the diplomatic corps and PNP [People's National Party] officials.

LIMANN WARNS AGAINST LAXITY, IRRESPONSIBILITY

AB250828 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 25 Oct 81

[Excerpt] President Limann has again warned that his administration will not tolerate laxity by persons placed in responsible positions, neither will it shelter anybody who proves to be either a political or administrative misfit. This was contained in a speech read for him by Dr deGraft Johnson, the vice president, at a durbar of chiefs and people of the Ga traditional area in Accra yesterday to round off this year's Homowo festival. Dr Limann asked Ghanaians to appreciate the nation's problems in greater depths. It is only by this that each of them will be able to contribute his quota to create the conditions for a more speedy economic recovery. On the problems of the region, the president said the People's National Party government will continue to show sympathy and understanding towards them. The government will not waver in its efforts to meet the region's demands. Dr Limann asked the chiefs to mobilize their people for clean up campaigns in the various traditional areas. He announced that the government has approved a plan for the greater Accra regional development corporation to launch a large-scale bread production project. This he said, is meant to frustrate the profiteering activities of some private bakers.

GOVERNMENT WILL NOT PAY UNPRODUCTIVE FARMERS

AB240914 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 24 Oct 81

[Text] The government will no longer pay the salaries of workers on the food production corporation farms which show no good results. All such nonproductive farms will be turned into cooperatives to be managed by the workers themselves.

The minister of agriculture, Mr Agbesi, who was addressing the end of the conference for regional managers of the corporation in Accra yesterday, said every farm will now be a center of its own. Mr Agbesi asked the managers to submit to his ministry by the end of next month up-to-date reports on all their farms. He also asked the management to change the working hours of its employees to suit the weather in order to ensure maximum productivity.

Mr Agbesi disclosed that 10 trucks and some tractors have been allocated to the food production corporation and warned against the hiring out of machinery to individuals without proper records being kept in such transactions. He said the corporation seems to have deviated from the main purpose of its trading on self-supporting basis and serving as a training ground to give practical experience in agriculture to new graduates. Mr Agbesi, therefore, charged the participants to find solutions to their many problems including those of heavy staffing at the headquarters and nonaccountability.

The chairman of the board of directors of the corporation, Nana Bosompra, assured the minister that under the present board serious efforts will be made to achieve good results.

COMMISSION SAYS TWO PARTIES NOT REGISTERED

AB221924 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Text] The electoral commission says organizations and individuals describing themselves as the All People's Party and the New Ghana Party have not been duly registered as political parties with it as required by the political parties decree 1979, SNCDPP 9. According to the statement by the commission, any party or group of parties acting in a manner contrary to the provisions of the decree should advise themselves accordingly.

Party Leader's Response

AB251428 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 25 Oct 81

[Text] The general secretary of the All People's Party [APP], Dr Obed Asamoah, has reacted to last week's announcement by the electoral commission that the APP and the New Ghana Party are not legally registered. Speaking to newsmen at Likpe Kukurantumi in the Volta region where he attended the opening of a rural bank for the area, Dr Asamoah said activities carried out by the APP do not contravene the political parties' decree of 1978. This is because rallies so far held by the APP have been organized under the umbrella of a particular party duly registered within the fold of the APP. Dr Asamoah pointed out that there is nothing harmful with the declaration of intent to form a party. All that the APP has been doing is merely provisional. He said as soon as the APP is legally registered this week, it will go all out to consolidate its position and make more gains. Dr Asamoah added that the APP has a very bright chance in future elections.

PARLIAMENT OPENS 27 OCT; LIMANN SPEAKS 30 OCT

AB261843 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] A new session of parliament opens in Accra tomorrow. It is the third of the first parliament of the Third Republic. With the legislature establishing its own convention, the sessional address by the president is expected to be delivered next Friday. Our parliamentary correspondent says this is a departure from the practice when a new session starts with the sessional address. However, this is perfectly in accordance with the Constitution which states that the president shall, at the beginning of each session of parliament, before its dissolution, deliver to parliament a message on the state of Ghana.

The president has already hinted that he will announce during his sessional address major economic policies including a new producer price for cocoa. According to the agenda for the first meeting, the house will consider a number of reports it could not deal with during the last session. These include the interim report from the committee on labor, social welfare and rural development and cooperatives and an investigation into the affairs of the Brongahafo regional consumer cooperative multi-purpose society. Others are the reports from the committee on agriculture, cocoa and fisheries, on the distribution of tractors imported from the GDR and the public account committee.

NIGERIA

MINISTER COMMENTS ON OPEC, NAMIBIA, CHAD

PM231533 Paris LE MONDE in French 17 Oct 81 pp 9, 14

[Jean-Pierre Langellier interview with Nigerian Foreign Minister Ishaya Audu -- date, place not given]

[Text] [Question] Mr Minister, have you noted a change in France's African policy since the left's arrival in power?

[Answer] It is too early to say. Of course, we have some hopes and expectations. We have seen several African heads of state, mostly French-speaking, calling on the new French Government. The latter seems a little more concerned by and attentive to the problems of poverty facing Africa. But to be honest, the previous government also seemed to us to share those concerns. We hope that they will now be even more intense. Let's wait and see.

The previous French Government was one of three which vetoed the UN resolution recommending sanctions against South Africa. Now, when the United Nations condemned the South African Army's recent incursion into Angola, France voted for the Security Council resolution. Therefore, there seems to have been some changes. On the other hand, nuclear cooperation between France and South Africa is a very important factor in our view. Some people in our country thought that France would change its policy, owing in particular to the ongoing internal debate on the nuclear question. Unfortunately, I was right. Indeed, to the best of my knowledge, France is pursuing this nuclear cooperation with South Africa. Thus, there are some signs of a change of policy here and there but nothing very specific. I would have preferred to be able to say much more on this subject.

[Question] What is the Nigerian Government's feeling about OPEC and its failure to reach agreement on a standard crude oil price?

[Answer] I am surprised that there has been so much fuss about this question of a standard "crude oil' price. It is neither the only nor the most important subject of concern to OPEC. There are many other important spheres in which OPEC acts as such for the benefit of all its members. Disagreement on just one subject cannot have serious repercussions on the nature and role of the organization. For instance, the OPEC aid fund is doing good work in aiding the poorest countries. This is a very good thing. Of course, I admit that we were disappointed after the failure of the Geneva meeting in August. So what? This is not the first time that there has been disagreement on oil prices or production levels. We are now awaiting the December meeting. I am not in the least pessimistic about OPEC's future.

[Question] Some people in Nigeria seem to think that your country should leave OPEC. What is your position?

[Answer] It would be a very unfortunate decision to break up the organization because of just one misunderstanding which I think is merely temporary. Thus, our official position is clear: OPEC is a very useful organization and Nigeria will continue to fully play its role in it.

[Question] In his speech to the UN General Assembly last year, President Shagari expressed the hope of seeing Namibia free and independent before October 1981. That deadline has been reached but the objective has not been fixed. What contribution is Nigeria making to speed up the solution of this conflict?

[Answer] At that time, we hoped that a meeting between South Africa and SWAPO would make it possible to implement the UN plan. Unfortunately, the U.S. elections have been held since then. The previous administration resolutely supported the right to independence of the African countries still under colonial domination. There is no doubt that the new U.S. Government's demonstrations of friendship toward South Africa and the statements that the latter will not be abandoned have encouraged it to renege on its previous commitments concerning the implementation of the UN plan.

It is a disappointment but we have not lost hope. Independence was not achieved in 1980 and will probably not be in 1981, but it will not be much longer until it is. It is a question of simple justice. Nigeria is continuing to give SWAPO bilateral or multilateral aid through the OAU and its liberation committee. This is diplomatic, moral, financial and material aid. Our permanent UN representative has just been appointed UN anti-apartheid committee chairman and will do all he can to help solve this problem.

[Question] The Western governments which are members of the "contact group" are against the imposition of sanctions on South Africa. They stress that that would be ineffective. How does your position differ from that of the Western countries?

[Answer] Our position is diametrically opposed to that of the "contact group." We believe in the efficacy of sanctions against South Africa. They would help force it to heed international opinion with a view to granting Namibia independence. Sanctions against Zimbabwe were possibly not 100 percent effective but they certainly contributed to its liberation. We don't see why they should not have sililar effects in Namibia.

[Question] Do you think the Reagan administration has so far defined a specific policy toward your continent, particularly southern Africa?

[Answer] Yes and no. From the viewpoint of East-West confrontation, the American attitude is obviously very clear. Everywhere the United States thinks it detects a communist influence it wants to get rid of it, without concerning itself with the interest of the countries concerned. This is what is being seen in Africa, Latin America and everywhere else. On the other hand, regarding U.S. policy toward Africa's specific problems, particularly in the southern part of the continent, we still do not have an overall idea of what that policy might really be. They are preparing to explain their policy to the United Nations. We will just have to wait and see.

[Question] Does Nigeria have the pressure with which to prompt the United States to change its policy?

[Answer] I am in a position to help them better understand the problems of apartheid or Namibia. We will continue to exercise as much influence as we can in that direction -- both in our bilateral relations and through the multilateral organizations: the United Nations, the OAU, the "contact group" and so forth. We still hope that the United States might be influenced and change position.

[Question] Why did Nigeria wait some time before condemning the last South African military intervention in Angola?

[Answer] That is untrue, completely untrue, although the Nigerian press did publish such a report. At that time, President Shagari and I were in Kenya on an official visit. I personally drafted a communique in Nairobi, strongly condemning the South African intervention. I gave it to you.

[Question] For instance, didn't you want to give the United States an opportunity to take a stance on this affair, give it some chance to act well?

[Answer] Certainly not. We issued that strong condemnation in Nairobi. But aside from that, we believe that actions speak louder than words.

[Question] Following the border incidents between Nigeria and Cameroon (Note 1: On 16 May, a border clash near the mouth of the Rio del Rey killed five Nigerian coast guards and injured three. As a protest against "the inadequacy of the OAU's work in this affair," President Shagari decided not to attend the organization's annual heads of summit in Nairobi in June), how do you intend to settle this dispute between neighbors?

[Answer] This is an old problem. It will not be very easy to solve. We have invited President Ahidjo to make an official visit to Nigeria. He has accepted. We hope to be able to establish the conditions for settling this affair on that occasion. Like it or not, we will always continue to be Cameroon's neighbor. This dispute must be settled by peaceful means.

[Question] We are witnessing some resurgence in the fighting in eastern Chad. How do you analyze the situation now prevailing in that country where Libyan troops are stationed?

[Answer] This new fighting saddens us. We have never particularly liked the presence of Libyan or any other country's troops in Chad. But at the same time, it is impossible to deny that the Libyan troops have brought a brief period of peace. For that reason, their role must be assessed positively. Nonetheless, in the interest of Chad and Libya, the more quickly the Libyan troops leave Chad -- and that applies to any other foreign presence -- the better. That is Nigeria's position. Since the OAU has invited us to help set up the inter-African force which is to replace the Libyan troops, we will play our role in that respect like any other country....

[Question] Not exactly like any other -- yours is one of the few African countries which can help finance that neutral force.

[Answer] The finance question is important. But we hope that it can be settled by the OAU. At present, I don't know what means it intends to use.

[Question] On this point, do you expect financial aid from the European countries, particularly France?

[Answer] I don't know. If they agree to contribute, they are welcome to do so.

SENEGAL

DIOUF NEWS CONFERENCE ON RETURN FROM GULF TOUR

JN231717 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 22 Oct 81

[Senegalese President Diouf's news conference on 22 October at Dakar-Yoff airport on his return from a three-state Gulf tour -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr President, one could sum up the significance of your visit to three Gulf emirates by saying that you aimed at strengthening the already long-standing cooperation with Kuwait and at extending our country's cooperation to include Bahrain and Qatar. Can you evaluate your tour and tell us whether it was a success?

[Answer] Thank you very much, Miss Cornevin. You have correctly stated the problem. As a matter of fact, my visit fell within the framework of Arab-African solidarity and the already excellent relations existing between Senegal and Kuwait on the one hand and Bahrain and Qatar on the other. I went to hold talks with their highnesses, the amirs of those states, and to strengthen the friendship and cooperation existing between Senegal and those countries. I am satisfied with the outcome of my visit. Relations with Kuwait, as you are aware, are very good, with a broad legal framework. And our economic and political relations are very strong. However, there is still room for improvement and the purpose of my visit to Kuwait was to further strengthen this cooperation and to give it new impetus. His highness the amir of Kuwait was very understanding and attentive to me and our discussions resulted in positive steps in bilateral relations. We also discussed current major issues on the African and international scenes. We noticed our perfect identity of views on these issues.

In Bahrain and Qatar, as you mentioned, there was the need to create, within the framework of the excellent political relations which we have with these countries, a legal framework to facilitate the strengthening of relations on the economic and cultural levels. To this end, our talks were also fruitful and resulted in steps to make concrete these principles of increased cooperation between our country and these two countries.

We presented to Bahrain and Qatar authorities a draft agreement on economic and technical cooperation and a draft agreement on cultural cooperation. We are of the opinion that the above-mentioned principles will lead to the signing of these agreements which will later go through the ratification process. Here also, we did not limit ourselves to bilateral matters. We discussed current burning issues and stressed African-Arab cooperation. We noted that we share similar views in this field. I must stress the exceptionally warm and fraternal welcome accorded us in these three emirates. I am used to welcomes that portray hospitality, understanding and kindness, but I must say honestly that I was very much surprised by the exceptional manner in which my three conterparts received me and my delegation. It is an honor to Senegal and it was on its behalf that we went to foster the ties between our people and the people of these three friendly countries. En route to these countries, I made a stopover in Khartoum. On my return journey, I made a stopover in Niamey. These two technical stopovers were also very important because they enabled me to have direct contact with two heads of state of friendly countries -- President Numayri and Sudan and President Kountche of Niger. The stopovers in Khartoum and Niamey were fruitful and our talks there again related to bilateral relations and African and world issues. Allow me to repeat here that we noticed a complete similarity of views with Presidents Numayri and Seyni Kountche. I took the opportunity to remind both Numayri and Kountche of my invitations to them to pay official visits to Senegal. I also confirmed to the amirs of Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar that they will be welcome in our country where our people will give them a warm and exceptional welcome to match the great friendship binding their peoples and the people of Senegal.

[Question] Mr President, you have just mentioned the Arab-African cooperation. I remember a suggestion for trilateral cooperation involving Europe, the Arab countries and Africa -- a trilateral cooperation among the Europeans who have the technology, the Arabs who have the energy and the Africans who have the raw materials. Don't you think that such cooperation could have replaced the much publicized North-South dialog, which they are trying to revive at Cancun without much hope, to ensure a more efficient international economic order?

[Answer] First of all, I don't think that we should be entirely pessimistic about the Cancun outcome. I don't think all the problems will be resolved in Cancun but they at least will be discussed, properly discussed, and it will be a step forward in the dialog between the North and the South in order to attain, at long last, this new international economic order for which we have been longing. I think we must set priorities. My main concern now is that we revive Arab-African cooperation as soon as possible. This cooperation has so far been maintained on a bilateral rather than a multilateral basis. There have been obstacles to the timely revival of the cooperation. At present, some of these obstacles have been removed and we truly hope that the 24-member committee, consisting of 12 Arab states and 12 African states and set up at the expert and ministerial level will be able to meet soon, either in Dakar or in any other African capital -- this does not matter, -- the essential thing being that the meeting takes place. We hope that from this meeting, a new impetus will be given to this Arab-African cooperation and that this will enable us to hold immediately and Arab-African ministeral council meeting and then an Arab-African summit. I believe this is the most important obstacle to be removed so that Africa, which has already established good relations with Europe, will then not find it difficult to solve some of its problems in the spirit of equality, dignity and responsibility. This will express our desire for a new and more just international economic order.

[Question] Mr President, permit me one last question, still within the framework of current issues. We know that you have received a message from King Hassan II of Morocco on what he calls Mauritania's inability to adhere to its commitments toward Morocco, following of course the Guelta Zemmuor incidents involving the Polisario. What is this issue all about?

[Answer] Miss Cornevin, I have just returned; the prime minister has just showed me the sealed envelopes bearing the messages from King Hassan II and President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala. I think you ought to give me time to read them first, acknowledge them and then take action on them. And I think you will have the answer later.

ANGOLA

NUJOMA REITERATES SWAPO CEASE-FIRE OFFER

AB271220 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] The president of SWAPO of Namibia, Comrade Sam Nujoma, yesterday in Luanda reiterated SWAPO's readiness to sign a cease-fire agreement with racist South Africa for the installation of UN Security [Council] Resolution 435 on Namibia. Without the installation of this, the People's Liberation Army would continue with the struggle until final victory is won, President Sam Nujoma said.

He further stated: Since this is a serious issue concerning the future (?destiny) of the oppressed and the exploited people who are yearning for freedom, justice and total independence, we have submitted the proposal to SWAPO's legal department for (?thorough) scrutiny, study and analysis, after which the conclusions will be submitted to the Central Committee of SWAPO for final decision which will be communicated to you in due course. While diplomatic efforts are being made, SWAPO is extremely disturbed by the ongoing usage of Namibia as a springboard of aggression and occupation of the country. SWAPO has always been of the opinion that, as major trading partners with racist South Africa, the Western countries have the leverage of obliging the Pretoria regime to stop its aggressive acts against Angolan territory.

The president of SWAPO of Namibia, Comrade Sam Nujoma, went on to say that SWAPO is opposed to the impending trip to Namibia with a view to meet South Africa's puppets, which will constitute a recognition of racist South Africa's illegal occupation and the institutions it had created in Namibian territory.

DOS SANTOS WELCOMES WESTERN CONTACT GROUP

AB271613 Paris AFP in English 1554 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Luanda, 27 Oct (AFP) -- Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos today welcomed representatives of the five-nation Western contact group on Namibia.

President dos Santos told the delegations from Britain, Canada, France, the United States and West Germany, who arrived here yesterday on a tour of southern African countries, that their visit was an opportunity to reach common ground and establish trust once and for all with a view to finding a fair solution to the difficult problem of Namibia.

The Angolan president added that it had not been easy to convince the parties concerned, and notably the warring sides, to show proof of goodwill for a ceasefire and a start to the transition process towards Namibian independence.

Angola would continue its efforts to make the contact group's mission a success, President dos Santos added.

SOUTH AFRICA

PROPOSALS FOR NAMIBIA HANDED TO PARTIES CONCERNED

LD261148 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] The new Western proposals for a settlement in South-West Africa/Namibia have been handed to the South African Government in Cape Town.

The proposals were handed over this morning by representatives of the Western five contact group to the South African director general of foreign affairs, Dr Brand Fourie. The proposals will now be studied by the South African Government in view of Wednesday's meeting in Cape Town with the delegation representing the United States, Britain, France, West Germany and Canada.

The delegation headed by the American assistant secretary of state for Africa, Dr Chester Crocker, is expected in Cape Town tomorrow evening. The proposals were also handed to the leaders of South-West Africa/Namibia's internal parties today by the Canadian ambassador to South Africa, Mr Robert Middleton, and a representative of the U.S. Embassy in Pretoria, Mr Dennis Keogh.

The Democratic Turnhalle Alliance was the first group to be visited by the envoys, and its chairman, Mr Dirk Mudge, expressed the hope afterwards that the proposals would lead to peace. The document containing the new proposals is being labeled as confidential.

The proposals are also being delivered in the Angolan capital of Luanda today.

Parties' Reactions

LD271210 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Excerpts] The vice president of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA] in South-West Africa/Namibia, Dr Ben Africa, has welcomed the action of the five Western powers in providing the internal parties with the latest Western proposals for a settlement before talks are held between the parties and the Western contact group. Dr Africa was speaking in Windhoek after the delivery of copies of the proposals to internal party leaders. Copies of the proposals are also in the hands of the Governments of South Africa, Zambia, Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe, as well as SWAPO officials in Luanda. Dr Africa said the fact that copies have been given to the internal parties of South-West Africa/Namibia showed that the parties were acknowledged as representatives of the people of the territory.

In the meantime the chairman of the alliance, Mr Dirk Mudge, has stated that there are positive elements in the proposals, although some aspects need clarification. The DTA would wait for explanations during the talks later in the week before making any further comment.

The leader of the National Party in South-West Africa/Namibia, Mr Kosie Pretorius, says he has reservations about the emphasis which the new plan places on the international aspect. It seems that the international community is again trying to dictate to South-West Africa/Namibia.

The leader of the SWAPO-Democrats, Mr Andreas Shipanga, has welcomed the proposals, saying that they coincide with the views of his party. In his opinion, the guidelines in the plan eliminate the possibility of a one-party state.